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Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIII, Issue No. 221

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2013

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OPINION METER

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INSIDE

BUSINESS



Bank of Hawaii awards \$25,000 to five small businesses on Saipan.

► PAGE 13



A study finds the Milky Way is teeming with billions of Earth-like planets.

► PAGE 14



India is aiming to join the world's deep-space pioneers with a journey to Mars.

► PAGE 15

Girl, 14, says Hocog raped her five times. PAGE 3
High court places Ayuyu question under advisement. PAGE 5

'Let House decide on 99-year public land leases'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

A panel that reviewed a proposed constitutional amendment to increase the CNMI's maximum 40-year lease term on public lands to 99 years now says that the issue remains "controversial" and "highly divisive," and therefore recommends that the full House membership decide on it.

» **3 major hotels' leases expiring in less than 10 years**

This comes at a time when at least three hotels have less than 10 years left on their public land leases: global brand Hyatt Regency Saipan in Garapan, Marianas Resort & Spa in Marpi, and Fiesta Resort & Spa, also in Garapan.

The House Natural Resources Committee's report and recommendation could be adopted in this afternoon's House session.

"I think the initiative has enough votes to pass in the House, given that the 40-

See LEASES on Page 4

Demapan: HK investors eye \$3B venture in NMI

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

A few days after returning from Hong Kong with Gov. Eloy S. Inos, House floor leader Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan) said yesterday that an investor group is eyeing close to \$3 billion in total investments in the CNMI inclusive of hotels, villas, and a private medical center.

Demapan and Inos left for Hong Kong last week to meet with the investor groups.

See DEMAPAN on Page 4



NATION

GAO sets visit for wage hike impact survey

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

A U.S. Government Accountability Office team will be visiting Saipan, Tinian, and Rota next week to work on their report that will be delivered to the U.S. Congress on the impact of minimum wage increases under a 2007 federal law, even as a new U.S. law allowed the CNMI to skip another 50-cent increase this year and in 2015.

GAO, the investigative arm of Congress, has an April 2014 deadline to submit its report on the CNMI's minimum wage hike impact.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the largest business group in the CNMI, apprised its members of the GAO team's Nov. 12 to 16 visit on the three islands.

Richard Pierce, Chamber executive director, said that GAO senior analyst for International Affairs and Trade Jonathan

See GAO on Page 4

At the crossroads

The CNMI is at the crossroads of deciding whether to embrace a mega-investment today and begin the urgent journey to pull itself out of the deepening financial disaster, or ignore it altogether and sink into the abysmal nether world of bankruptcy and mediocrity.

It's almost too good to be true, delving into the combined projects of Green Globe and Agility to prepare the CNMI to gradually exit its fiscal colossus and begin the task of forging

» **Make it or break it: It's in the palm of our hands**

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



stronger economic pillars for its people.

The combined sum of the investment now sitting in the horizon totals \$800 million. One aspect deals with wind turbine-powered electrical system. The new energy system would enable the firm

See CROSSROADS on Page 4

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Local

Visiting teams praise significant amount of evidence seen at NMC

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The only community college on island was recently twice visited by members of the accreditation commission, and Northern Marianas College president Dr. Sharon Y. Hart said both visits ended with positive notes from the accreditation inspectors.

"Dr. Smith (team leader) provided positive feedback as to the significant amount of evidence provided," said the president in an email circulated among all NMC employees.

The accrediting team visits took place on Oct. 21 and 22 and an oral exit report was shared with the college.

Hart said the first day visit was called the "Substantive Change" visit and pertained to the accreditation of NMC's only baccalaureate degree program. This has already been resolved with the decision of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges to approve NMC's proposal to include the School of Education's four-year baccalaureate program under the commission's accreditation purview.

It was learned that the second visit, called the "Show Cause Visit," also ended with a verbal report provided to the college

indicating a summary of its observations and comments.

Hart shared that the team noted that all key administrative vacancies at the college have been filled and the institution is moving from shared to participatory governance. The president, it was also noted, is involved in the hiring of faculty.

The team also noted the new board policy and associated procedures establishing minimum faculty qualifications for hiring all new faculty members. Hart said the team noted the 10 most recently hired faculty who are qualified under the new policy.

She said the ratio of part-time to full-time faculty has been established and the institution is adhering to these.

According to Hart, a total of 95 percent of the faculty evaluations were completed on time compared to about 30 percent a year ago. Feedback, she said, is also being given on time to make improvements the following semester.

"A significant amount of training has taken place on governance. The college is shifting to participatory governance. The IE Guide has been updated. Board policies exist that clearly define the role of the board and the president. The board has un-

dergone training to deepen their understanding of these roles, as has the college community. The policy on honorary regents has been removed by the Board of Regents. Policies exist that clearly define the roles of the board. Observed a college campus culture that is much different than what was observed by the team in 2012. The processes the college went through to accomplish [all of these] were difficult," notes the president.

Hart said the question the visiting team still has relates to that of "sustainability" and how the college and the board will continue to sustain the momentum on all progress made to date.

Hart recognized the dedication and commitment demonstrated by the staff for the important occasion.

"As we all know, the show-cause team visit does not end our time on these eligibility requirements and standards. It is imperative that we continue to build on these and demonstrate continuing progress over time," said Hart.

She disclosed that in mid-December, NMC will have the opportunity to present to the commission a supplemental report, which will then be followed with a meeting with the full ACCJC Commission in mid-January.



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At least 16 of 28 CNMI lawmakers off to Guam for MILA

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

At least 16 of the 28 members of the Legislature are going to Guam next week for the inaugural session of the Mariana Islands Legislature Association, which brings together CNMI and Guam lawmakers to address issues of mutual interests such as trade, transportation and healthcare. The number could still change in the coming days.

Trunk or Treat venue may be rotated

After the success of last Thursday's 2013 Trunk or Treat at the Marianas Business Plaza, Rotary Club of Saipan president Laila Y. Boyer is now looking at the possibility of rotating the venue for the annual Halloween event.

For the longest time, Trunk or Treat was held at the American Memorial Park. However, a federal shutdown resulted in the AMP closing down for a couple of weeks, which forced the Rotary Club to relocate this year's Trunk or Treat to the old Nauru Building in Susupe.

"We would like to rotate venues for next year as we realized that surrounding villages, such as Susupe and Chalan Kanoa, really benefited from the event being closer. So we would like to bring it closer to other villages next year. I think we are up for the challenge!" Boyer said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

The civic group's president also thanked Rotary Club members and sponsors for all their help in organizing the 2013 Trunk or Treat, which saw the attendance of over 3,000 trick or treaters.

"A big thank you to past president Ben and Linda [Babauta], past president Pete and Lucy [Shilling], director Ivan Ilmov, (Mark Rabago)

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), after a leadership meeting yesterday afternoon, told *Saipan Tribune* that seven senators—including himself—will be attending the MILA session set for Nov. 12 and 13 in Guam.

Of the eight sitting senators, only Sen. Frank Borja (Ind-Tinian) will not be at the MILA session. One Senate seat remains vacant, over a month since it was officially vacated by Juan M. Ayuyu.

Among 20 House members, at least nine are Guam-bound as of yesterday.

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), one of those attending the inaugural MILA session, said the number could still change.

The eight other House members going to Guam are Reps. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan), Antonio Benavente (Ind-Saipan), John Paul Sablan (Cov-Saipan), Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan), Larry Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), Mario Taitano (Ind-Saipan), Richard Seman (R-

Saipan) and Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan).

As of yesterday, at least five said they won't be able to attend the session: Reps. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), Antonio Agulto (Ind-Saipan), Teresita Santos (R-Saipan), Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), and vice speaker Frank Dela Cruz (Ind-Saipan). Agulto and Tebuteb initially decided to be at the session.

House floor leader Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan) and minority leader George Camacho (R-Saipan) remained undecided as of yesterday.

"I still have days to think about it. Still checking whether I still have office budget for the trip," Demapan said.

Four others could not be reached for comment yesterday.

Each lawmaker is responsible for his own airfare and other expenses.

Guam Speaker Judith Won Pat has proposed three areas of concern: the creation of a regional healthcare network, formation of a free trade zone, and the establishment of cruise lines that will service Micronesia.

CNMI lawmakers, mean-

while, are adding interisland travel including allowing small aircraft to fly from Tinian to Guam without U.S. Transportation Security Administration clearance. A specific trade concern is to allow the CNMI to import live cattle to Guam by updating Guam's existing quarantine regulations.

MILA seeks to improve the quality of life, relationships and future of the CNMI and Guam communities.

From Guam, House members will be traveling to Rota for a Nov. 15 session.

Girl, 14, says Hocog raped her five times

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A 14-year-old girl who was allegedly sexually abused by a man since she was 6 years old until she was 11 took the witness stand yesterday at the start of the defendant's jury trial in Superior Court.

Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer, counsel for 45-year-old suspect Donald Ayuyu Hocog, will continue cross-examining the girl today, Wednesday, at 8:15am.

Hocog is on trial for sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree.

After the parties' opening statements, assistant attorney general Margo Brown started calling in witnesses, including the alleged victim.

The girl was smiling at the start of her testimony but soon cried while describing the incident when Hocog allegedly raped her at a house in Kagman when she was just 6 years old.

She stated that Hocog raped her five times and that the last one was in 2011.

The girl recalled that Hocog would tell her not to make any sound or he would hurt her with his belt.

"I felt scared and bad," she said.

The girl said she told the police about the rape when she ran away from home in March 2013. She said a Division of Youth Services staff then interviewed her about the sexual abuse.

In her opening statements, Brown said the now 14-year-old girl had kept a dark secret for

years—a secret she was scared to tell anyone—that she was sexually abused by Hocog in a span of five years.

Brown said that on March 13, 2013, the teenager finally had the courage to tell the police what happened to her when she ran away from home.

For the defense's opening statement, Meyer said the only evidence in this case is the word of the teenager, who was 13 when she ran away from home in March.

Meyer said she ran away

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3rd suspect in CW-1 scam flees NMI

Helen N. Apairente, the third defendant in an alleged CW-1 permit scam, has fled the CNMI.

Assistant U.S. attorney Ross Naughton informed U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona on Monday that Apairente has fled to the Philippines.

DEMAPAN

From Page 1

"It was a fact-finding trip," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday. "They were talking

Naughton disclosed that the U.S. government is currently working to extradite Apairente back to Saipan.

The indictment charged Apairente with four counts of visa fraud.

At the arraignment, Apairente's co-defendants, Mariano

about potential investments in the CNMI of close to \$3 billion over a certain period of time and based on my observation, they are serious in investing in the CNMI."

But as of yesterday, the administration has yet to issue de-

K. Pangelinan and Rosabella P. Cruz, pleaded not guilty of the charges.

Pangelinan was charged with 17 counts of visa fraud, while Cruz with 13 counts of visa fraud and one count of false statement.

Manglona set the jury trial for Dec. 30, 2013.

Manglona also asked why attorney Joseph Horey appeared

for Pangelinan when it was attorney David Banes who was appointed as counsel for the defendant.

Horey explained that Banes was currently in a deposition and that he would be appearing in future hearings.

The judge advised that the attorney appointed in the case should be present at the hear-

ings, and that future appointments would require counsel to appear and not be substituted by another attorney in the law firm.

Pangelinan is the alleged primary corporate officer of ARCH International Co. Ltd., which held itself out as a job-placement agency that could help aliens in need of CW-1 permits find employment and

obtain CW-1 permits.

Apairente and Cruz were alleged employees of ARCH.

According to the indictment, Pangelinan, Cruz, and Apairente conspired from July 2011 through July 2013 to defraud U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services by submitting fake employment contracts for 17 alien workers. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

GAO

From Page 1

Fremont and Michael Simon will be conducting "pre-sent survey follow-up interviews and additional interviews with employer and employee groups."

The Chamber has said that all increases in minimum wage, as it affects the cost of doing business in the CNMI, "should come as a result of solid empirical data as the GAO has been directed under the law to gather, not simply by the fact that P.L. 110-28 schedules a scale based

upon a political decision."

Under a 2007 federal law, the CNMI is required to increase its minimum wage by 50 cents annually until it reaches the federal wage floor of \$7.25 an hour.

However, a newly signed law delayed the scheduled Sept. 30, 2013, and Sept. 30, 2015, mini-

mum wage increase.

This means the CNMI's minimum wage stays at \$5.55 an hour until Sept. 30 next year.

The annual 50-cent hike was also delayed in 2011 under a separate law.

GAO prepared similar reports on the impact of minimum wage

increases in 2010 and 2011. They are available at www.gao.gov.

The Chamber of Commerce's board of directors will meet the GAO team on Nov. 13 in two separate meetings, at 2:30pm and 4pm, with other Chamber members who wish to discuss their opinions of future federal increases in wage rates in the CNMI.

GAO has already targeted employers who may have already received survey forms. These firms are primarily hotel and tour groups. The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands will have their members meet with GAO on Nov. 14.

LEASES

From Page 1

year lease is limiting the investments in the CNMI. I, for one, would vote 'yes' to it to allow voters to decide on it. It's in their purview," Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan), one of the initiative's co-authors, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

If the House and Senate pass Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero's (Ind-Saipan) House Legislative Initiative 18-5, it will be placed on the ballot for voters' ratification in the November 2014 elections.

Besides the main author, the initiative has nine co-sponsors.

The House Natural Resources Committee, chaired by Rep. Anthony T. Benavente (Ind-Saipan), said the Legislature has deliberated extensively on the merits of Article 11 of the NMI Constitution over the years.

"Previous legislation indi-

cates that the idea is not a new one and that the issue remains a controversial one. Therefore, your committee is left in an 'indeterminate' state and highly recommends that the full membership of the House decide upon this highly divisive initiative," the panel said.

Of the seven Natural Resources Committee members, only five signed off on the report: the chairman, vice chair Rep. John Paul Sablan (Cov-Saipan), Reps. Richard Seman (R-Saipan), Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), and Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan).

Rep. Roman Benavente (Ind-Saipan) and floor leader Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan) didn't sign off on it.

Article 11 of the NMI Constitution partly states that public lands "may not transfer a leasehold interest in public lands that exceeds 25 years including renewal rights. An extension of not more than 15 years may be given upon approval by three-fourths of the members of the

Legislature."

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the largest business group in the CNMI with some 160 members, supports an extended maximum land lease term.

While the maximum lease term for public lands is 40 years, the maximum lease term is longer for private lands—55 years.

Attempts to also increase the land lease term for private lands from 55 years to 99 years have failed over the years.

Voters, however, will be voting on an Article 12 initiative in 2014—one that allows any U.S. citizen with "at least some degree" of Chamorro or Carolinian blood to be considered a person of Northern Marianas descent who can own land in the CNMI.

Pros and cons

The House Natural Resources Committee said Article 11 has served an extremely valuable and useful purpose by acting as a check and balance through which land transactions in the CNMI are

conducted and screened.

It also acknowledges that existing leasehold interest plus other incentives that the CNMI offers is more than generous and will allow businesses ample time to regain their investments, "plus some."

The panel said that leasing public lands comes at an opportune time because currently available hotel rooms are not enough to accommodate an increasing number of tourists to the CNMI.

Even with current leasehold restrictions, seven groups of investors have expressed interest in leasing public lands in San Antonio and Marpi to build new hotel rooms with at least 200 rooms.

So far, the Department of Public Lands has released a short list, with two investors, for the San Antonio public land. The two investors still need to present their plans to a review and evaluation committee, to determine which one will win the right to lease the tract of land for their multimillion hotel project.

The committee said there have been numerous attempts over the years to amend or repeal the Article 11 restriction with the rationale that the initial reasons supporting it "are no longer consistent with the needs of the Commonwealth and its people."

"Extending the term of the lease of public lands from 25 years, with an additional 15 years subject to the approval of the Legislature to 99 years will generate renewed development interest in the CNMI among investors," the committee said.

It added that a longer leasehold term would encourage lending by investment and financial institutions to finance major projects that will then create jobs and stimulate other economic activity.

"The leases of public land will continue to require legislative approval where the leased land consists of more than 5 hectares," the committee added.

The committee held public hearings on HLI 18-5 on

Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

During those public hearings, the public's sentiments were, "at best, split equally over the advantages and disadvantages" of the initiative.

Another Article 11 initiative

The Natural Resources Committee also recommended full House action on another Article 11 initiative, HLI 18-6, allowing income from public lands to be used to compensate landowners for the taking of their property, and requiring DPL's proposed annual budget to be approved by the Legislature.

Currently, public lands income are not allowed to be used for land compensation.

Moreover, DPL's annual budget is submitted to the Legislature "for information purposes only."

The committee report on the initiative, also authored by the speaker, could be acted on by the full House today.

CROSSROADS

From Page 1

to deliver to CUC \$20 per kilowatt-hour. To ensure lower utility rates, the entire CUC system needs to be privatized. In addition, a renewable energy solution for Rota is included so that there's uniformity in power rates for all three inhabited islands.

The cost is around \$300 million at no cost to the CNMI. It would definitely reset the button to revive business expansion, new business startups, increase business volumes for grocery stores, office and house rentals and more money circling in the economy because our people will once again be able to find meaningful employment.

The other side of the project is "ship repair and building" facility, a major shipyard that would be built right on U.S. soil. Its creation sets the CNMI to service the entire U.S. Navy fleet in the Asia-Pacific region, in addition to building private ships boasting U.S. hull re-

quirements from nearby Asian countries.

The ship repair project alone would bring in some 800 jobs that pays federal minimum wage of \$7.50 an hour or more. The windmill part of the plan would need some 160 to 200 employees. Logistics alone for either project entails a lot of work, i.e., moving equipment and various supplies and materials to Tinian for the emplacement of the windmills, among others. Aren't we struggling with some 6,000 unemployed people right here at home?

The credibility of the firms is indisputable anywhere in the global village. For instance, Agility is a publicly traded company and one of the world's leading providers of integrated logistics, with close to \$6 billion in annual revenues and more than 22,000 employees in 550 offices across 100 countries.

These projects would give the CNMI the grand opportunity to resuscitate investments, place the islands on the global map by embracing the project, and attract other major investors

to make these isles their home. Remember when the apparel industry used to rake in some \$1.2 billion annually? This investment is even more powerful and influential the world over and a permanent investment that sets up the CNMI to engage in real economic diversification.

The desire by Green Globe for the privatization of CUC is simple: It's the only way its planned venture would be able to see positive return on investment and the unfettered ability to immediately bring in a highly reputable firm to hook up the old system to the wind power electrical system from Tinian.

Eventually, the current system would be moved and readied as a backup system when the island is hit by a superstorm. Eventually, the entire power system (Tinian and Saipan) would be powered by windmill. This power system is soon to become the sole source of power generation in the State of Texas. It means it's a proven as an alternative source of energy that is far more inexpensive

than fossil fuel and solar energy.

The ship repair and building facility is a huge investment in itself that would play a major role in supporting our country's Asia-Pacific security posture. There are news accounts of the U.S. Navy increasing its battle-ready fleet in the region. It is too costly sailing it to shipyards in the U.S. mainland, turning the planned facility here a key player in the upgrade of U.S. naval ships. It translates into a permanent profitable venture satisfying our economic needs and the ability of our U.S. Navy's need of ship repair throughout the year.

Nearby Japanese and Asian commercial shipping industries would explore why the huge shipyard repair and building facility here. For all we know, they may be interested in placing orders for new ships to replace their aging fleet or have their old ones repaired right in the CNMI. The opportunities for business expansion is far wider than what we've seen here since the dust of WWII settled more than 60 years ago.

Essentially, it's an investment that offers stronger economic base and diversification.

Training programs would be set up with NMC and a vocational school here to prepare employees in the various skills involved in ship repair and building. Those who complete their training would be certified by the U.S. Department of Labor. It opens up more opportunities for skilled workers who may have to relocate elsewhere by necessity.

So why am I pushing for the generosity of leadership on this project? It's our economic salvation where we literally take the bull by the horn to lure in stronger and more permanent investments so we could do away with bankruptcy ASAP.

When the two projects are accepted and take off, we could sit back and breathe a sigh of relief for we would have set some powerful economic growth in motion unseen here in our developmental history.

It sets the CNMI to bringing in more revenues annually. We would be ready to do away with

the 25 percent cut in retirees' pay and pay for the cost of basic public services for our people. Money problems for education, retirement fund, and medical referral will become non-issues, including a bond flotation that would fade in our rearview mirror.

The economic doldrums has basically knocked us off our feet. It need not be this way. But it's all in the palm of our hands to make a real difference in rebuilding an economically prosperous archipelago. We owe it to ourselves and posterity.

Our people would have given us our crown jewel of achievement for being able to see beyond the years. I see a rare opportunity to help revive the need of economic growth in the mega-investment I've just explained. It's the only sure path to pulling ourselves out of the mud of uncertainty where investment literally stopped since 2005. Let's join hands and do something on rock solid foundation marching to the even playing field of economic prosperity. *Si Yuus Ma'ase!*

High court places Ayuyu replacement question under advisement

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The CNMI Supreme Court placed under advisement yesterday the certified question as to who should replace former Rota senator Juan M. Ayuyu at the Senate.

After listening to the arguments of the parties' counsels, Chief Justice Alejandro C. Castro said they will try their best to issue a decision soon.

Aside from Castro, the other members of the appellate panel were justices pro tem Timothy B. Bellas and Herbert Soll.

The petitioners in the case are Sen. Pete P. Reyes and Rep. Janet U. Maratita, who were both present at the hearing. Attorney Robert T. Torres served as counsel for Reyes, while attorney Ramon K. Quichocho served as counsel for Maratita.

Senate legal counsel Jose

Bermudez appeared for respondent Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz, who also watched the hearing. It was Cruz who submitted the certified question to the high court.

Ayuyu recently stepped down as senator after pleading guilty to charges related to the smuggling of endangered fruit bats from Rota to Saipan. He will be sentenced on Dec. 20, 2013.

Cruz believes that Joey Quitugua should replace Ayuyu because Quitugua got the next highest vote among Rota senatorial candidates in the 2009 elections.

Maratita and Reyes, however, believe that former Senate president Paul A. Manglona should be appointed as he got the next highest vote among candidates in the 2012 senatorial elections.

The question raised is about Commonwealth Constitution Article II Section 9, which states: "A vacancy in the Legislature shall be filled by special

election if one-half or more of the term remains. If less than one-half of the term remains, the governor shall fill the vacancy by appointing the unsuccessful candidate for the office in the last election who received the largest number of votes and is willing to serve or, if no candidate is available, a person qualified for the office from the district represented."

At the hearing, Torres argued that the high court should read the constitutional provision, if ambiguous, to give effect to the most recent pronouncement of the will of the people in an election—the runner up in the most recent election.

Torres asserted that a gubernatorial appointment of a successor must be the unsuccessful candidate for the office in the last election (or most recent election) who received the largest number of votes.

In Reyes' brief, Torres said the public interest is best served by appointing the losing candidate with the highest vote for a Senate office from the most recent election.

In contrast, he said, the appointment of a losing candidate with the highest votes from an earlier election in which the vacating senator was elected to office does not reflect the will of the people as expressed in the most recent election.

Torres said no important policy interest would be served in selecting a losing candidate in an election that has been super-

sed by a more recent one.

Torres said that appointing the losing candidate from the most recent Senate election, regardless that the vacating senator was elected from an earlier election, best reflects the intent of the framers, accomplishes the will of the people, and best serves the public interest.

Arguing for Sen. Cruz's position, Bermudez said that if the petitioners are asked who will replace Hocog, the answer based on their position is "it depends."

Bermudez said the vacancy should be replaced by the runner-up in that election.

Bermudez said that Ayuyu should be replaced by the runner-up in that same 2009 election.

"The will of the people in 2009 election is different from the will of the people in 2012 because of different candidates," the Senate counsel pointed out.

For Maratita's position, Quichocho said it is very clear that the one who should replace Ayuyu is the runner-up from the last election, 2012.

Quichocho said that nothing supports the respondent's contention that the replacement should come from the 2009 election.

Case of receiving stolen item dismissed

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho dismissed yesterday the criminal case filed against a man accused of receiving a stolen electric fishing rod that belonged to the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

Camacho dismissed with prejudice or finality the information charging Thomas Coleman with one count of receiving stolen property, following the Office of the Attorney General's motion.

In the government's motion to dismiss with prejudice, assistant attorney general Barbara P. Cepeda disclosed that after further review of the file, the Commonwealth is not convinced that sufficient evidence exists at this time to prove the charge beyond reasonable doubt.

According to the information, between Dec. 19, 2011, and Dec. 11, 2012, Coleman purposely received or retained

a stolen property—an electric fishing rod belonging to DFW.

In January 2012, police disclosed that DFW was twice burglarized over a weekend and that an estimated \$20,000 worth of items were stolen.

Among the stolen items were three fishing rods.

The 54-year-old Coleman, through counsel Michael N. Evangelista, had pleaded not guilty. (Ferdie de la Torre)



NMPASI
NORTHERN MARIANAS PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SYSTEMS, INC.

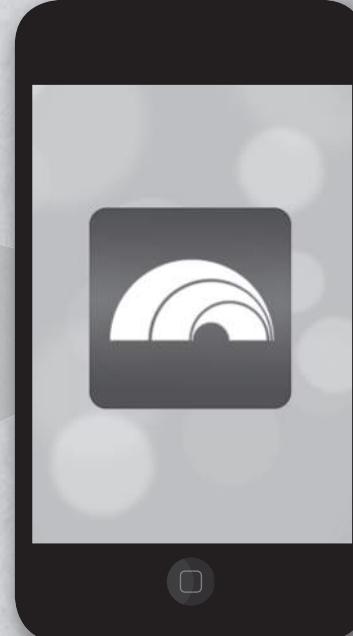
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI) is soliciting proposals for the financial and compliance audit for fiscal year ending September 30, 2013. NMPASI is the designated, federally funded protection and advocacy system for persons with disabilities in the CNMI. NMPASI uses a variety of individual and systems advocacy approaches to protect people's right, including legal and administrative remedies, legislative, policy change and trainings. Proposals for the financial and compliance audit shall be submitted to NMPASI, P.O. Box 503529, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than November 8, 2013. The audit shall be performed in compliance with the following guidelines:

1. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards;
2. OMB Circular A-133; and
3. Compliance with the General Requirements Applicable to Federal Financial Assistance Program.

Award will be based on specific factors such as prior experience, technical competence, ability to meet the deadline and price in this order. The contract for this audit will be awarded no later than November 15, 2013. The audit work shall commence by December 30, 2013, and a final audit report shall be completed by March 15, 2013. A list of specific audit requirements and Agency's profile are available at NMPASI office, Gualo Rai. Any questions regarding this matter can be addressed to Mr. James Rayphand, Executive Director at Tel. No 235-7274/7273.

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CHC Muña's salary raised to \$96K retroactively

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The interim chief executive officer of the public hospital, Esther Muña, now gets a higher salary after the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board decided to give her a salary adjustment.

From \$85,000 per annum as the corporation's chief operating officer and interim CEO, Muña is now paid \$96,000 per year, according to corporation board chair Joaquin Torres yesterday.

Muña was named the corporation's interim CEO on April 29, 2012, following the termination of former CEO Juan N. Babauta. The adjusted salary, Torres explained, is based on the compensation paid to Babauta.

Saipan Tribune confirmed that Muña's adjusted salary will be retroactively applied starting on April 29, 2012.

The CHCC board had earlier recommended to Gov. Eloy S. Inos Muña's permanent selection as corporation CEO, citing her competence and dedication to the job. The governor has yet to decide on this.

The Governor's Office earlier vowed to shoulder for at least a year the salary of a permanent

hospital CEO and CFO, using the governor's discretionary funds, in consideration of the corporation's current financial capability.

Since the announcement of the CEO vacancy, some off-island candidates have expressed interest in the position but, according to the CHCC board, most want a high salary, which the corporation may not be able to afford.

Torres said the governor would make a decision on the hiring of permanent CEO once the result of the Medicare resurvey is released. Torres said he had a recent conversation with Inos about this.

"Once we receive the result [of the Medicare resurvey], the governor will decide on the CEO [hiring]," he told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that whether the position will be filled within or from outside the organization will be up to the governor.

Torres expressed optimism that the recent federal survey on the hospital will show favorable results. He cited the collective efforts demonstrated by the staff and management in meeting and rectifying the concerns raised by the Medicare in last

year's survey.

The corporation has spent a little over \$3 million and counting to address the Medicare citation.

This included hiring more personnel, buying medical tools and equipment, and trainings for personnel, among others.

CHC was sanctioned with immediate jeopardy statuses last year due to serious deficiencies uncovered by a Medicare team

that visited the hospital. That placed the hospital's condition of participation with Medicare and Medicaid at risk.

MTEC pleased with growth of MY WAVE

As evidenced by the record-setting attendance in last week's MTEC/MY Wave Tourism Summit at the Saipan World Resort, Marianas Tourism Education Council chair Vicky Benavente is pretty pleased with the growth of MY WAVE clubs on Saipan.

"We had not expected that large of a turnout but are pleased to see the growth of additional MY WAVE Club members compared to last year," she said.

Benavente said the MTEC/MY Wave Tourism Summit held last Oct. 30 was able to successfully share with the islands' youth information about ways to be actively involved in tourism.

"Students were grouped and asked to respond to several questions geared toward improving the CNMI's tourism industry and the economy. These students who are in the MY WAVE Club, even those at a young age, understand the value of the tourism industry on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. We, the MTEC, continue to work with them to encourage their participation and expand their knowledge about careers in the hospitality industry."

One can never be too young to learn and understand the importance of the tourism industry to the Commonwealth, she said.

"Here in the CNMI, tourism is the key economic driver, providing thousands of jobs and a major source of revenue for the government. Our proximity to

key Asian travel markets positions the islands at an advantage for marketing purposes. For the

CNMI to be a competitive destination, certain challenges must be addressed by both the public and private sectors."

She said one imminent challenge is next year's expiration of the CW program, which if not extended will result in the exit of over 12,000 nonresident workers in the CNMI. A large number of these workers are in tourism-related jobs.

That's why it is important



Benavente

that the islands' youth must be prepared to work for the tourism industry, Benavente said.

"Considering the federalization of our immigration function, access to skilled labor will be severely impacted by as early as next year, December 2014. If an extension of the transition period is not granted, will the CNMI have a workforce ready to step in when thousands of foreign workers are repatriated? Training and developing the youth is critical to meet the business' needs for skilled employees."

Benavente also reached out to supporters of MTEC and its MY WAVE Club, most specifically Docomo Pacific and its general manager James Nelson.

"MTEC is appreciative of the businesses that continue to support its programs, such as Docomo Pacific, which donated \$14,000 recently from proceeds of their golf tournament."

She also thanked the Hotel Association of the NMI, the Marianas Visitors Authority, and the Public School System under Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan, who, she said, grants access to schools for MTEC education outreach programs. (Mark Rabago)

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
INVITATION FOR BID
(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2013 • TIME: 10:00 AM
NMHC IFB 2011-004 (A - F)

"GROUNDS MAINTENANCE OF NMHC'S PROPERTIES (LISTING A-F) IN SAIPAN"

Bid packets will be available on Monday, October 21, 2013, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, October 28, 2013, at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Section 8 Multi-Family Account.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer
/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

PUBLIC NOTICE

LOTTERY COMMISSION MEETING

Notice is provided of a scheduled meeting of the Lottery Commission on November 06, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. in the Governor's Conference Room Juan Sablan Memorial Building – Capitol Hill Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral communications regarding the agenda below.

AGENDA

- Preliminary Matters**
 - Call to order
 - Roll call
 - Adoption of agenda
- Purpose and role of Commission**
- Proposed Structure of Video Lottery**
- Proposed Regulations**
- Requests for Proposal Structure**
- Proposed Timetable for Implementation**
- Meeting Schedule**
- Other Matters**
- Public Comments**
- Adjournment**

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya
P.O. Box: 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Petitioner Henry H. San Nicolas

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN THE MATTER OF) Civil Action
THE ESTATE OF:) No. 13-0188
JOSE P. SAN NICOLAS) NOTICE TO
Deceased.) CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to any and all persons, creditors or entities having claims against the late Jose P. San Nicolas, or his estate that they are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court, CNMI, within sixty (60) days of this publication, or the claim(s) will be forever barred if not filed within the 60-day deadline. A copy of your claim should be sent to the estate's administrator Henry H. San Nicolas, through his counsel, Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney At Law, at Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. BOX 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.

Dated this 28th day of October 2013.

PATRICK DIAZ
Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

BOO!

Employees of McDonald's Saipan mug for the camera in their Halloween costumes on Oct. 31, 2013, at the fastfood restaurant's Middle Road branch.

A healthy me is drug-free!

In honor of Red Ribbon Week, from Oct. 23 to Oct. 31, the Substance Abuse Prevention and Recovery Coalition, or SAPARC, held a Red Ribbon Door Decoration Contest for all CNMI community members to participate in.

Red Ribbon Week is organized by the National Family Partnership's Red Ribbon Campaign and established in response to the murder of DEA agent Enrique Camarena. Angered parents and youth in the communities across the country began wearing red ribbons as a symbol of their commitment to raise awareness of the killing and destruction caused by drugs in America. The National Family Partnership organized the National Red Ribbon Campaign in 1985 to help increase awareness

of drugs in the country. (Visit <http://redribbon.org/> for more information)

In order to increase awareness of drugs and alcohol in the CNMI, SAPARC joined in on Red Ribbon Week and held a Door Decoration Contest themed, "A Healthy Me Is Drug-Free!" Entries were submitted to SAPARC for the chance to win extraordinary prizes.

Contest winners are:

■ **First place: Dr. Rita H. Inos Jr. Sr. High School, YAP Junior High on Rota**

"As a school body, we are part of the community. We care about the community and its well-being."

■ **Second place: Dr. Rita H. Inos Jr. Sr. High School, YAP Senior High on Rota**

"We will continue to work as a team to spread the word within our schools and out in the community about the cons of drugs and alcohol."

■ **Third place: Aesha Sablan**

"I will continue to keep my community alcohol and drug-free by ensuring that my children, the next generation, understand the consequences of alcohol and drugs."

SAPARC congratulates the winners and thanks all participants who decorated their doors to help increase awareness of drugs and alcohol in our islands!

For more information on how to become involved with SAPARC and prevent the initiation of substance use among children, youth, and adults or to help reduce substance use of community members already using substances, call (670) 323-6590. (SAPARC)

CUC sees \$1.7M loss due to PSS rate relief law

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI's utilities corporation faces a significant drop in its projected revenue beginning this new fiscal year due to the impact of a newly enacted law that provides relief to public schools.

Charles Warren, chief financial officer of the Commonwealth

Utilities Corp., disclosed yesterday that the rate impact of Public Law 18-19 on the corporation is projected at \$1.7 million.

As a not-for-profit agency, CUC relies heavily on its own revenue and collection from customers to sustain operations.

Public Law 18-19, enacted on Sept. 24, changed CUC's water and wastewater service rates for the Public School System from

government to commercial. That resulted in the PSS water rate to be reduced by 98.4 percent, from \$44.30 to 72 cents per 1,000 to 3,000 gallons. It also reduced the PSS wastewater rate by 95.6 percent, from \$68 per 1,000 gallons to \$3 for 1,000 to 6,000 gallons.

This is projected to save PSS some \$2 million every fiscal year. It is currently billed some

\$4.5 million annually for public schools' water and wastewater. This is seen to go down to \$2.5 million a year.

Also, under Public Law 18-19, any late fees or penalties that have been assessed to PSS shall be waived for fiscal year 2013.

Warren told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that CUC is waiting for guidance from the Commonwealth Public Utilities

Commission on how the rate relief law will be implemented. He expects the commission to meet next month.

As for the projected \$1.7 million loss in revenue, Warren pointed out that the new law allows CUC to offset the amount by adding it to the government rates.

"This is one of the areas we are waiting on guidance from the CPUC," he said.

CUC experienced losses in all its three facilities last fiscal year: Power operation loss was

at \$2.6 million; losses for water operations was at \$3.14 million; and losses in wastewater operation was at \$1.98 million. Overall operating losses was at \$7.7 million in the 12-month period.

CUC recently submitted a petition to the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission to raise its rates. The commission has yet to schedule a rate hearing.

The petition CUC has filed with the CPUC is for base rates only. It does not contain a request to increase the fuel charge at this time.

Japanese newspaper to hold annual golf tourney on Saipan

Sanyo Shimbun, a newspaper with a circulation of over 460,000 in Okayama, Japan, has chosen Saipan as the site of its annual golf tournament this year.

The *Sanyo Shimbun* Co., Ltd general manager Shinichi Fujiwara and *Sanyo Shimbun* general manager Yoshihiro Nishiyama were on Saipan over the weekend to meet with their tour agent, R&C Tours Saipan Inc., as well as Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio.

The *Sanyo Shimbun* Amateur Golf Tournament will be held on Nov. 30, 2013, at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

Speaking through R&C general manager Takayuki Tanaka, who served as interpreter, the two *Sanyo Shimbun* officials said they will be bringing in about 100 people from Japan, which includes golfers and their families. Broken down, that's about 60 men and 40 women.

Fujiwara and Nishiyama said that *Sanyo Shimbun* chose Saipan to host this year's golf tournament because they've been hearing a lot of positive feedback about the island's golf courses. They said they were told that Saipan's golf courses are first class.



MARK RABAGO

The *Sanyo Shimbun* Co., Ltd general manager Shinichi Fujiwara, right, and *Sanyo Shimbun* general manager Yoshihiro Nishiyama, second from right, pose with Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio, left, and R&C general manager Takayuki Tanaka at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's last Sunday.

In previous years, the *Sanyo Shimbun* Amateur Golf Tournament was held in Guam and Hawaii.

Fujiwara and Nishiyama said that Guam's Leo Palace hosted the event from 2006 to 2008 before it moved to Hawaii in 2009.

The U.S. territory's Mangilao Golf Club then was home for

the tournament the past three years, 2010-2012.

Some members of the group are also expected to try out the island's other golf courses—Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort and Kingfisher Golf Links.

There will also be optional tours available that will take them to popular tourist sites

in Marpi like Banzai Cliff, Suicide Cliff, Last Command Post, The Grotto, the Japanese Peace Memorial, and Bird Island Lookout.

Sanyo Shimbun is a Japanese language daily newspaper published by The *Sanyo Shimbun* Co., Ltd. It was founded on Jan. 4, 1879. (Mark Rabago)



Legislative Bureau

NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586, SAIPAN, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-14-001 Position: Legislative Assistant
PL-UNGRADED: \$1,148.36 B/W

The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee.

Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan

General Duties:

- Drafts legislative documents including but not limited to resolutions, committee reports, and letters, as requested by the Chairperson of the Committee to which he or she is assigned to;
- Attends legislative session and committee meetings as requested by the Chairperson of his or her assigned committee;
- Performs investigative and legislative research and analysis;
- Prepares reports and studies including preparation of letters, legislation, and related documents as requested by members of his or her assigned respective legislative house;
- Maintains a reasonable record of all tasks assigned by his or her immediate supervisor Chairperson of the Committee or other members of his or her assigned respective legislative house and such record is subject to review upon request; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements:

- Possess four years relevant work experience or a minimum of an AA or AS degree or higher from a United States accredited institution of higher education with one year of legislative work experience;
- Possess ample knowledge of the legislative process;
- Excellent research, analytical, and strong writing skills; and
- Ability to produce results within limited time frames and work under pressure on a daily basis.

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through 19(F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by a copy of an official diploma and/or certificate. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.

Employment application may be accessed at www.cnmileg.gov.mp or may be picked up at the Office of the Director of the Legislative Bureau located at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan. Completed application and police clearance may be submitted to the Office of the Director or may be mailed to the Office of the Director, Legislative Bureau; P.O. Box 500586; Saipan, MP 96950. No telephone inquiries.

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association Is looking for a HEAD COACH

February to December 2014

Location: Saipan, CNMI.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Introduce and demonstrate up to date training methods and playing techniques to players and then plan, organize, and conduct training and practice sessions.
- Scout and observe players from all levels to evaluate players' strengths and weaknesses, to recommend the level at which players can train or play, and to identify and recruit potential athletes.
- Plan and direct physical conditioning programs that will enable athletes to achieve maximum performance.
- Coach, train and prepare national team players for international competitions.
- Provide training direction and develop methods to encourage and motivate players for games and competitions.
- Adjust coaching techniques, based on the strengths and weaknesses of athletes.
- Instruct individuals or groups in sports rules, game strategies, and performance principles.
- Keep records of athletes, teams and opposing teams' performance and analyze the strength and weaknesses of opposing teams to develop game strategies.
- Take the lead for developing a multi-year strategic plan for the NMIFA.

Minimum Qualification:

- Bachelor's degree in Sports Science, Physical Education or related major plus 5 years minimum experience in the job offered. Resume must reflect the experience required and references will be verified.
- Applicant must be a Class A-Licensed Coach in soccer.
- Must have extensive experience in soccer sports development including development programs of youth, men and women national players.
- Can work flexible hours and available on weekends, holidays and weeknights.
- Must have international coaching experience at the national level.
- Can communicate effectively in English and understanding and speaking other Asian languages is a plus.
- Familiarity with EAFF and AFC run programs and competitions will be highly considered.

Salary will be based on qualification. Please send resume and other documents showing all requirements to the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association - 3rd Floor, TSL Plaza, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan or PMB 338, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950 or Fax no. 1-670-233-6632 or email to rzapanta@nmifa.com. To be considered, resume must be submitted no later than 5:00 pm, Friday, November 15, 2013.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Century Tours Inc. is inviting qualified candidates to fill the following positions:

Food & Beverage Director (01)

Job Duties: Lead in enhancing the guests' CNMI experience and overall customer satisfaction through conscious collaboration with the Tourism Groups' stakeholders and partners (including but not limited to hotels and restaurants) in developing and integrating excellent/themed food and beverage products and services. Work on improving the Tourism Group as well as its partners' revenue and profitability. Research competitive markets and trends to assist in formulating creative tactics and approaches that are align with the group's strategies and produce sound business results not only for the Tourism group but also to each business partners. Develop logistical and operational plans together with the company partners to ensure effective incorporation of the F&B programs into daily operations on time and within budget while ensuring the guests are continuously provided with the highest level of F&B service/experience. Performs other related duties as assigned from time to time.

Requirements: Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in business management, tourism and/or hotel management. More than ten years solid and progressively responsible experience in travel and tourism business with no less than three years experience as F&B director or above position. Experience of owning a restaurant business or serve as a key role in involving restaurant operation from pre-opening to the end will be preferred. Have excellent multi-tasking, organizational, interpersonal and leadership skills, as well as a thorough knowledge of the industry and other potentially related value added services needed to maximize the profitability of the Company. English and Chinese speaker preferred.

*We are an Equal Employment Employer.
Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.*

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

UOG Chamorro language lecture series continues

» Chamorro immersion school pioneer to provide second lecture

On Oct. 24 this year the University of Guam introduced its new Chamorro Studies major to the community through a launch event titled, "I Tinituhun: Inestudian Chamorro gi Unibetsedat Guahan." This program is a historic addition to the University of Guam, and is unique in the world, offering students the chance to become fluent in the Chamorro

language and well-versed in Guam's history.

Panel discussions, musical and dance performances and other types of presentations took place, all focusing on different aspects of the study of Chamorros, whether it be their history, language or culture. The highlight of the day's proceedings was the premiering of a new lecture series, a Cham-

orro language lecture series.

The Chamorro Experience gi Fino' Chamorro, or "the Chamorro Experience in the Chamorro language" is being organized by the Chamorro Studies program and the Office of the University of Guam President and will feature four distinguished speakers. Each speaker will talk about his or her experiences as Chamor-

ros in the Chamorro language. They come from different walks of life, one a blacksmith, one an educator, another a singer and the final speaker, an activist.

The first lecture, "I Lina'lan Herrero" was given by Joaquin Flores Lujan or "Tun Jack Lujan" on Oct. 24. He discussed his life as a Chamorro blacksmith, making the tools that sustained Chamorros and their

culture before World War II and in the years since.

The next speaker is Ann Marie Arceo, the founder of the Hurao Academy, a Chamorro language immersion program that offers summer camps and after schools programs where children can be immersed in the Chamorro language. She will be discussing her work in trying to revitalize the Chamorro language and the importance of targeting the group that will

truly carry it on into the future, our youth.

Her lecture will be on Nov. 7, at 5:30pm in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Lecture Hall at the University of Guam. The lecture is free and open to the public. A question-and-answer session will take place after the lecture.

The future speakers and dates are Flora Baza Quan (Nov. 14) and Eddie L.G. Benavente (Nov. 20). (UOG)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ESFDB STUCO officers and their fellow students display the various prevention and awareness banners during their roadside waving at the Leadership Park, in celebration of Red Ribbon Week.

ESFDB celebrates Red Ribbon Week

To help raise drug abuse awareness throughout the Luta community, Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja celebrated this year's annual drug awareness week with a roadside waving and a mass pledge to remain drug-free.

Led by the school's Student Council officers, students from grades 4th to 8th stood by the Leadership Park roadside, where they all waved to cars passing by and took a public pledge to remain drug-free in honor of Red Ribbon Week.

The activity highlighted ESFDB's observance of the na-

tional weeklong celebration of Red Ribbon Week, which honors DEA agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, who was killed by drug bosses in Mexico in 1985.

The occasion kicked off on Oct. 23 and ended on Oct. 31. The 2013 Red Ribbon Week Theme is "A Healthy Me Is Drug Free."

"I am proud of our STUCO officers for taking the lead in promoting the Red Ribbon campaign. Drug awareness is something we need to be as knowledgeable about as possible in order to help out our

kids," said ESFDB principal Carmen H. Atalig.

"Red Ribbon Week specifically targets adolescents to increase awareness of the negative impact of drug use on their academic performance, behavior, relationships and safety," said STUCO president Angelica Lucero.

"Our mission... is to present a unified and visible commitment toward the creation of a drug-free Luta community and the whole CNMI," said STUCO vice president Loreville Clitar.

"When teenagers sniff glue,

solvents, or other products for a high, the practice can end in tragedy. We encourage our students, parents, and Luta community to become more informed about the dangers of drug abuse," said STUCO secretary Tyra Reese Calvo.

According to Edward Maratita Jr., Pacific Regional Training Institute director and school board president, "When a drug problem occurs in the school it is not just the school's problem, it's the community's. Education and intervention is the key to prevent alcohol and drug abuse."

Red Ribbon Week is sponsored, in part, by the Pacific

Regional Training Institute—Child, Youth, and School Services, which is made up of community representatives and U.S. Armed Forces personnel working together to reduce/eliminate youth substance abuse and gang activity, and to ensure a safe and healthy community through the facilitation of an effective and strategic integration of resources, the building of strong relationships, the fostering of open communication, and continuous education.

The administration, faculty and staff, and the board of directors would like to express their appreciation to Pacific

Regional Training Institute, Honolulu Federal Credit Union, and Paul and Kendra Tanaka. (ESFDB)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 63rd birthday grandma/nana Nikki Masga! May you enjoy your day and may God bless you on this special birthday of yours. We love you and many more birthdays to come. Greetings come from Mitsue Nevaeh and your entire family.



Petition vs deletion draws over 5K signatures

A campaign opposing the possible deletion from H.R. 3079 of language that would grant long-term alien workers non-immigrant status in the CNMI has collected over 5,000 signatures during the drive's culmination at the Civic Center in Susupe on Sunday. Guest workers mostly Filipinos, Bangladeshis, and Chinese supported the signature campaign held at the FILCOM Pavilion from 9am to 6pm. A few workers from Nepal, South Korea, and Thailand also came. Many U.S. mainlanders led by educator Ron Mandell joined the workers and attached their signatures. Human Dignity Movement president Jerry Custodio said they also gathered 245 signatures from Rota and over 100 more from Tinian.

Flashback A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

November 6, 2005

High voter turnout seen in polls

Thousands of voters across the CNMI trooped to polling centers yesterday to choose who among the 105 candidates they want to sit on the 42 seats that are available in this year's general election. Initial estimates show a high voter turnout in yesterday's polls. The Commonwealth Election Commission projected a high voter turnout as many Commonwealth residents trooped early in the morning to polling centers and waited in long lines during the generally peaceful exercise. Election Commission executive

director Greg Sablan declined, however, to specify a number for the turnout, saying he would not know until right before the counting begins. Three gubernatorial candidates cast their ballots at the same polling center in the Garapan Elementary School.

Minor glitches in otherwise smooth polls
The Commonwealth Election Commission blamed the lack of funding for the glitches encountered during yesterday's otherwise smoothly conducted election. Some voters complained about the long lines, which resulted from limited polling places. In Garapan Elementary School, for instance,

some voters who came to the polling place in the morning had to wait in line for at least 30 minutes before they were allowed inside. "If there's more money, I would add polling places," said CEC executive director Gregorio Sablan. He explained that the commission's funding level this year was the same as it was last year, when no election was held.

November 6, 2006

DPL, PTI bury hatchet

The Department of Public Lands has set aside its predecessor's demand that Pacific Telecom Inc. pay for using public lands for the telecommunication's buried cables since the mid-1990s. DPL Secretary John S. Del Rosario disclosed last week that the department had signed an agreement with PTI. The deal ended a longstanding legal dispute between PTI and the defunct Mari-

Bellas puzzled with settlement report

Former judge Timothy H. Bellas, chairman of the Garment Oversight Board, said he is puzzled with the report about the settlement money filed by the claim administrator and the lawyers representing the plaintiffs in the class-action against the CNMI garment industry. In an interview with Saipan Tribune, Bellas said plaintiffs counsel and claims administrator Gilardi and Co. prepared a report on what's going on with the over \$5 million settlement money. They are claiming that 3,000 of the

checks have been received by people and cashed. And that these 3,000 out of 29,000 account for 40 percent of the money. So I don't know how that works out the GOB chairman pointed out.

November 6, 2007

Cohen: Provision may be cut

The controversial proposal to grant permanent status to long-term guest workers may be removed from the House version of the CNMI immigration bill. David B. Cohen, the U.S. Interior Department's assistant deputy secretary for insular affairs, said the House is considering deleting the one-time grandfathering provision in House bill 3079. The provision has stirred widespread opposition, with the CNMI government, certain local groups, and even the Guam Legislature lobbying against it.

ABC7 Live Programming Launch

Photos by
MARK RABAGO



Sorensen Media Group Saipan manager Tina Palacios, second from left, poses with her staff during Monday night's launch of 24/7 live programming over at ABC7.



Microl-Toyota general manager Douglas Brennan with his wife, Carol.



Far left, Tina Palacios with IT&E customer services manager Janice Tenorio and Northern Marianas College external affairs director Frankie Eliptico.

Left, Sorensen Media Group CEO and chair Rex Sorensen, second from right, with his wife Mimi pose with, from left, IT&E CEO Bong Mojica, Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan, and Power 99's Mamalynn Alvarez.



From left, IT&E customer services manager Janice Tenorio, Sorensen Media Group Saipan manager Tina Palacios, IT&E network head Velma Palacios, and IT&E director for HR and OD Andrea Whitt pose for a group photo.



IT&E CEO Bong Mojica is flanked by the telecommunications company's sales and marketing manager, Hans Mickelson, and general manager Joy Santos.



Right, IT&E CEO Bong Mojica and general manager Joy Santos await the switching on of live programming at ABC7.

Far right, Sorensen Media Group CEO and chair Rex Sorensen addresses the crowd while awaiting the switching on of live programming, as his wife Mimi looks on.



Opinion

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIII, Issue No. 221

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

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EDITORIAL

Obamacare cancellation blues

Obamacare cancellation blues: The president promised people they could keep their health insurance. Some can't, but for a good reason.

This fall, thousands of Americans are learning that they can't keep their insurance policies next year because the coverage doesn't meet the standards set in the 2010 healthcare law. The only alternative for many will be more comprehensive policies at a higher price. The cancellations have caused a new wave of outrage against the law and President Obama, who repeatedly pledged that "if you like your healthcare plan, you can keep it."

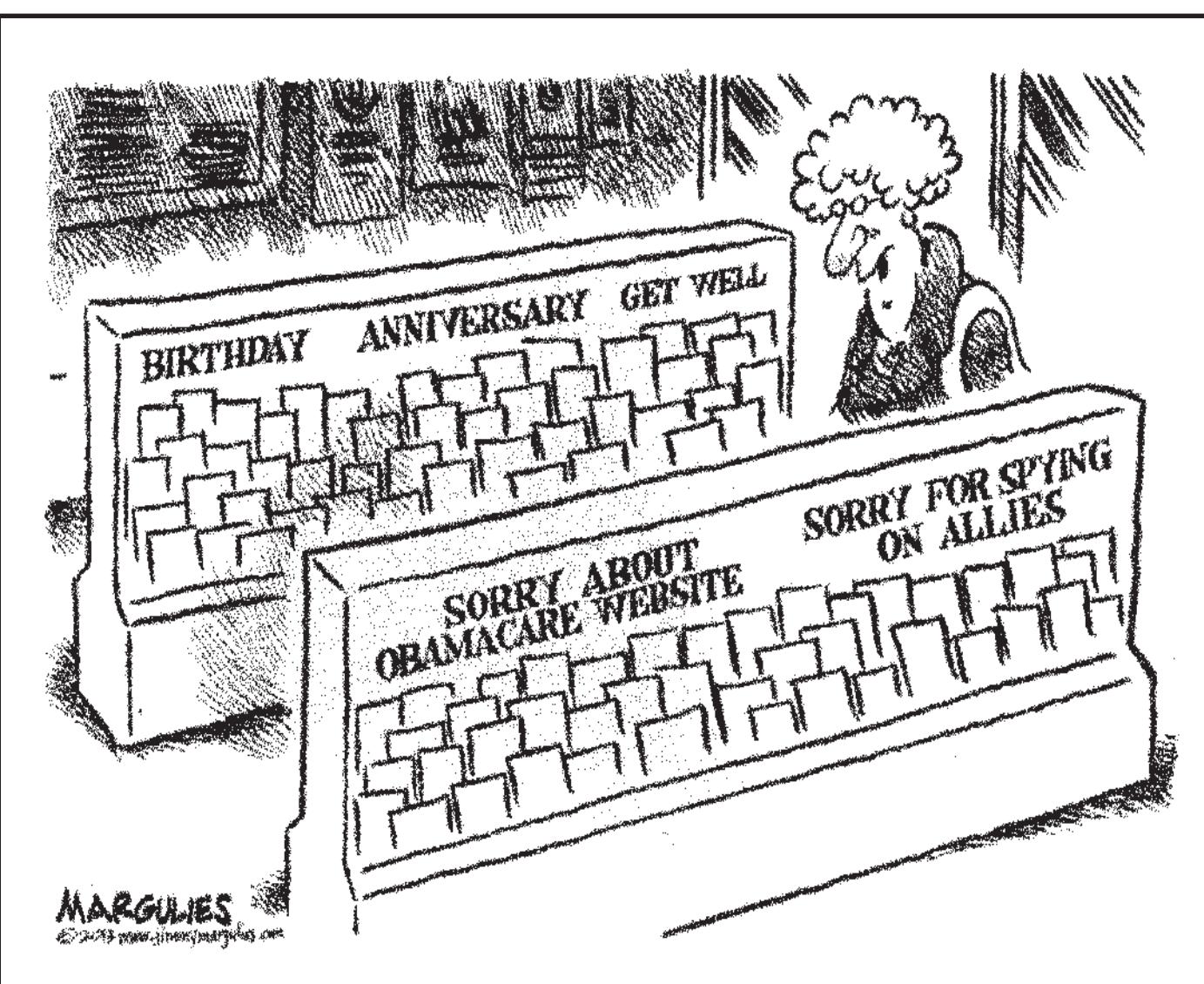
Obama clearly overpromised—not everyone can keep the plans they've signed up for since the new law passed. That's because one laudable purpose of the Affordable Care Act was to eliminate threadbare health plans that covered too little and left policyholders vulnerable to bankruptcy in the event of a major illness or injury. The president should have stated more plainly that some plans wouldn't pass muster.

The question now is whether the people losing their policies will sign up for new ones or go uninsured, undermining the law before it has a chance to succeed. The cancellation notices are going primarily to the 5 percent of the population covered by individual insurance plans, the main target of the law's reforms. Analysts estimate that more than half of those plans don't meet the new requirements to cover at least 60 percent of the cost of 10 essential health benefits (such as hospitalization and prescription drugs) and to limit out-of-pocket costs to \$6,350 for an individual or \$12,700 for a family.

The essential benefits and cost limits are meant to prevent people with insurance from being bankrupted by medical bills—a distressingly common occurrence. But they're also part of a larger effort in the law to stop insurers from cherry-picking customers, leaving those who may need expensive treatments unable to find coverage. The law will force risks to be pooled and costs shared in the individual market just as they are in employer plans, where younger, healthier workers subsidize older, sicker ones.

Such reforms are badly needed. But the sudden shift to more comprehensive coverage and shared risks will drive up costs for many people who've benefited from the current system's bias in favor of the young and the healthy.

The risk is that the cancellations will lead those least in need of healthcare to opt for no insurance, paying only the (relatively small) federal tax penalty. If that happens, it could cause premiums for those not covered by group plans to spiral upward, leading to even more people going uninsured. Lawmakers need to guard against such a vicious cycle without abandoning the efforts to improve insurance coverage for all Americans.



A plague on both your parties

Only two weeks ago, President Barack Obama looked like a man on the rise. He and his party had successfully stared down Republicans in a 16-day government shutdown. Voters were angrier at the GOP than any time since, well, the last government shutdown. A confident-looking Obama declared it was time to get the country back on track with quick action on a budget agreement, immigration reform and a bipartisan farm bill.

"One of the things that I hope all of us have learned these past few weeks is that it turns out smart, effective government is important," he said.

How long ago that moment seems now.

Since then, almost nothing has gone right for the president. The messy rollout of his biggest achievement, the Affordable Care Act, has careened from a simple case of website glitches to a nightmare of consumer complaints. Some of the country's closest allies have expressed outrage at reports that the NSA was tapping the cellphones of their leaders, including German Chancellor Angela Merkel. And last week, the NBC-Wall Street Journal poll reported that Obama's approval rating had sunk to 42 percent, an all-time low for him in that survey.

But the president wasn't alone in losing ground. That same poll found that the Republican Party has also hit an all-time low, with only 22 percent of voters saying they had a positive opinion of the GOP. Most dramatically, 63 percent of voters said they wanted to fire their current member of Congress, while only 29 percent said their representative deserved reelection.

We've finally found an issue on which almost all Americans, right and left, agree: We hate having a federal government that creates problems instead of solving them. And the shutdown, the Obamacare rollout and the phone-tapping scandal are all government-created problems.

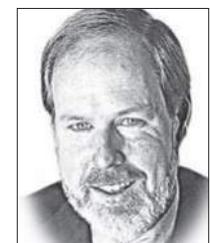
Members of Congress on both sides insist that they learned their lesson from the shutdown and won't stage a repeat performance. But the public isn't so sure. Polling shows that about half of Americans think Congress is likely to do it again, and that fear is dragging consumer confidence down, making the economy more sluggish than it needs to be.

While Republicans get most of the blame for the government shutdown, voters tend to blame the president—any president—when the economy is bad.

In addition, voters generally believe it's the president's job to make the federal government run well, and with the health care rollout and the NSA issues following so closely on the heels of the shutdown, the government isn't exactly humming. "When the system isn't working, no one comes out well," noted veteran pollster

By DOYLE MCMANUS
Los Angeles Times

Doyle McManus is a columnist for The Los Angeles Times. Readers may send him email at doyle.mcmanus@latimes.com.



Andrew Kohut of the Pew Research Center.

In Washington, of course, the big question is what effect the public's sour mood will have on next year's congressional election, in which Republicans hope to take over the Senate and Democrats hope to take over the House of Representatives.

Democratic pollster Stan Greenberg surveyed 80 "battleground districts" that could change hands and found that Republicans look more vulnerable than before. In some Republican districts, he told me, House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, is now even more unpopular than former Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif. But even Greenberg warned that few voters have actually decided to vote for the other party.

And that finding that almost two-thirds of voters want to fire their member of Congress? Don't count on it. "If you speak to someone at an emotional moment, you often get an emotional response," Kohut said. "By election day, voters aren't likely to behave as dramatically as that."

Even if voters stay mad through the 2014 election, it's unlikely that will change the balance in the House. To gain the 17 seats they'd need for a majority, Democrats would need to win almost every close race in the country.

As for Obama, he's hoping that once the Obamacare website is running smoothly—which his staff says will happen by the end of November—he can move on to other issues: immigration reform, infrastructure spending and job creation.

But second terms are often rocky. For every Bill Clinton, who managed to push past the rough spots, there's a George W. Bush, whose second term lurched from one crisis to another.

So far, Obama's second term hasn't given his supporters much cause for optimism. Like Bush, Obama came out of re-election declaring that voters had given him a mandate, only to discover that voters' patience with a president can wear thin astonishingly fast. Whether he regains public confidence now depends largely on making his healthcare program work—its insurance plans, not just its website. For the president, it comes down to one thing: Obamacare.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Broken homes, broken boys

When I started following the research on child well-being about two decades ago, the focus was almost always girls' problems—their low self-esteem, lax ambitions, eating disorders and, most alarming, high rates of teen pregnancy. Now, though, with teen births down more than 50 percent from their 1991 peak and girls dominating classrooms and graduation ceremonies, boys and men are increasingly the ones under examination. Their high school grades and college attendance rates have remained stalled for decades. Among poor and working-class boys, the chances of climbing out of the low-end labor market—and of becoming reliable husbands and fathers—are looking worse and worse.

This spring, MIT economist David Autor and co-author Melanie Wasserman suggested a reason for this: the growing number of fatherless homes. Boys and young men weren't behaving rationally, they suggested, because their family situations had left them without the necessary attitudes and skills to adapt to changing social and economic conditions. Anyone interested in the plight of poor and working-class men—and, more broadly, mobility and the American dream—should hope this research, and the considerable biological and psychological evidence behind it, become part of the public debate.

Signs that the nuclear-family meltdown of the past half a century has been particularly toxic to boys are not new. As far back as the 1970s, family researchers began noticing that, although both girls and boys showed distress when their parents split up, they had different ways of showing it. Girls tended to "internalize" their unhappiness and were likely to become depressed and anxious. Boys, on the other hand, "externalized" or "acted out": They became more impulsive, aggressive and "antisocial."

Autor and Wasserman cite a large study by University of Chicago sociologists Marianne Bertrand and Jessica Pan, which shows that,

World ranking for endless litigation

There are many reasons why potentially-rich Latin American nations are growing at a slower pace than their Asian counterparts but one of the least noticed factors—and one in need of urgent attention—is that a Latin American may grow old before being able to enforce a business contract in many countries of the region.

A new study by the World Bank and the International Financial Corporation, titled "Doing Business 2014," provides a ranking of the world's countries with the most cumbersome litigation systems. It shows that it's easier to enforce a contract between two domestic private businesses in Communist China or corruption-ridden Russia than in Brazil, Mexico, Colombia, Argentina and virtually any other Latin American country.

And judging from what its authors told me recently, that's one of the key reasons why many Latin Americans refrain from doing business, or why they choose to do business in the underground economy. Court proceedings in commercial disputes are so lengthy, complicated and costly, that they discourage business, they said.

Consider some of the findings hidden in the back pages of the study, which compares business conditions in 189 countries around the world:

■ When it comes to ease of enforcing contracts, the survey ranks Russia as number 10, China 19, Argentina 57, Chile 64, Mexico 71, Venezuela 92, Ecuador 99, Peru and Uruguay 105, Panama 127, Brazil 121, Colombia 155 and Honduras 182.

■ The average time it takes to enforce a contract is 270 days in Russia, 406 days in China, 426 days in Peru, 480 days in Chile, 590 days in Argentina, 610 days in Venezuela, 725 days in Uruguay, 731 days in Brazil, 1,288 days in Colombia, and 1,402

What food stamp cuts say about us

By BARBARA SHELLY
THE KANSAS CITY STAR

The problem with food stamps isn't that too many people have them. It's that too many people need them.

More than 47 million Americans are seeing their monthly benefits cut by 5.5 percent, beginning this month. That's about \$36 less for a family of four to purchase milk, cereal, fruits and veggies and other essentials.

People often are shocked to hear that one in seven Americans receive benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP. In Missouri, for example, about 15 percent of the population uses food stamps; in Kansas, 11 percent.

This doesn't mean people are greedy or lazy or gaming the system. A little of that goes on, and is eagerly seized upon by people

by fifth grade, fatherless boys were more disruptive than peers from two-parent families, and by eighth grade, they had a substantially greater likelihood of getting suspended. And justice experts have long known that juvenile facilities and adult jails overflow with sons from broken families.

Liberals often assume that these kinds of social problems result from our stingy support system for single mothers and their children. Provide more maternity leave, quality day care and health care, goes the thinking, and a lot of the disadvantages of single-parent homes would vanish. But the link between criminality and fatherlessness holds even in countries with lavish social welfare systems. A 2006 Finnish study of 2,700 boys, for instance, concluded that living in a non-intact family at age 8 predicted a variety of criminal offenses.

Even boys who don't land in juvenile court find their prospects diminished. Several studies have concluded that boys raised in single-parent homes are less likely to go to college than boys with similar achievement levels raised in married-couple families; girls show no such gap.

So why do boys in single-mother families have a harder time of it than their sisters? If you were to ask the average person on the street, he would probably give some variation of the role-model theory: Boys need fathers because that's who teaches them how to be men. The theory makes intuitive sense. And some evidence exists, though it's far from settled, that boys who live with their fathers after divorce are better off than those who stay with their mothers.

As the sole explanation for the boy disadvantage, though, the role-model theory needs modification. If boys simply needed men in their lives to teach them the ways of the gendered world, then uncles, family friends, mentors, teachers, stepfathers and nonresidential but involved fathers could do the trick. It's not clear that this is the case. And stepfathers have an especially mixed record in helping boys, the research shows. Professors Cynthia Harper and Sara

days in Guatemala. The exception to the rule is Mexico, where it takes 400 days, it says.

■ The average legal fees to enforce a contract amount to 11 percent of the contract's total value in China, 13 percent in Russia, 16 percent in Brazil, 20 percent in Argentina, 29 percent in Chile, 31 percent in Mexico, 36 percent in Peru, 44 percent in Venezuela, 48 percent in Colombia, and 50 percent in Panama.

Augusto Lopez-Claros, the report's leading author, told me that there's no question that archaic judicial systems where lawsuits drag on for years tend to slow down economic growth.

If you are suing a supplier for not delivering goods that you have already paid for, your money is tied up and cannot be used for other purposes. "In countries where it takes a long time to litigate, entrepreneurs will think it over twice before signing a new deal," he said.

Likewise, the higher the legal fees in a country, the more discouraged people are from starting new business partnerships, he added.

Comparatively, many rapidly-growing Asian countries have reshuffled their legal systems to speed up the enforcement of contracts.

In Singapore and South Korea, once chaotic and corruption-ridden countries, it only takes an average of 150 and 230 days, respectively, to enforce a contract, according to the report. In the United States, it takes an average of 370 days, it says.

Jean Michel Lobet, another of the report's authors, told me that Asian countries such as Malaysia are creating groups of judges who are highly specialized in commercial litigation and can thus do their jobs faster and better.

South Korea also has sped up litigation considerably by creating

who are convinced that everybody who is poor is on the take. But the lion's share of food stamp recipients are working parents. They simply don't earn enough to feed their families.

It's no secret that wages are stagnant. The median income for working-age households dropped 12.4 percent from 2001 to 2011, according to the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities. The American economy grew more than 18 percent in that period, but mostly just the people at the very top of the income ladder saw the benefit.

We have an upside-down, inside-out economy and nobody is doing enough to fix it. Businesses and corporations sit on record profits but refuse to hire new workers or reward their staffs properly. CEO's receive obscene bonuses while millions of people labor at or near the minimum wage. Too many people compete for low-paying jobs, while good-paying jobs go wanting because employers can't find people with the right skills because we're not investing in edu-

cation the way we should.

By KAY S. HYMOWITZ

Los Angeles Times

Kay S. Hymowitz is a contributing editor of the Manhattan Institute's City Journal, where a longer version of this piece appears. She is the author of *Marriage and Caste in America: Separate and Unequal Families in a Post-Marital Age*. She wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



McLanahan found that among boys they studied, the ones without fathers were more likely to be incarcerated, but they also found that those who lived with stepfathers were at even higher risk of incarceration than the single-mom cohort.

If the trends of the last 40 years continue—and there's little reason to think that they won't—the percentage of boys growing up with single mothers will keep growing. No one knows how to stem that tide. But by understanding the way family instability interacts with boys' restless natures, educators could experiment with approaches that might improve at least some lives.

Educators and psychologists have often described boys as "needing clear rules" or "benefiting from structure." Equally important is to find ways to improve boys' literacy. Boys have always had greater difficulty learning to read than girls, and that holds across all socioeconomic levels and in every country where PISA scholastic tests are given to 15- and 16-year-olds. Kids having trouble reading too often become disengaged from school and drop out.

But the truth is, we don't know for sure what will help. Our best bet is probably to follow the advice of social thinker Jim Manzi and start with small, controlled studies that lend themselves to careful evaluation—and keep experimenting.

By ANDRES OPPENHEIMER

The Miami Herald

Andres Oppenheimer is a Latin America correspondent for The Miami Herald, 3511 N.W. 91 Avenue, Doral, Fla. 33172; email: aoppenheimer@miamiherald.com.



e-courts, where lawsuits are filed electronically. Virtually all court procedures can be done online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

South Korea launched its electronic case filing system in 2010, and about half of its civil cases are currently e-filed, saving a lot of time and money, Lobet said. By conducting litigation electronically, South Korea uses less paper, eliminates the need for storage space, and—most importantly—makes it easier to access documents, he said.

My opinion: The cost and length of settling commercial disputes is not only slowing down economic growth in Latin America, but is also pushing millions of entrepreneurs into the shadow economy.

It's no coincidence that 56 percent of Latin America's people work in the underground economy and don't pay taxes, according to Inter-American Bank figures. If a contract can't be enforced, why bother signing one?

Perhaps several Latin American leaders should send their justice ministers to visit Singapore, South Korea and Malaysia, and see what these countries have done lately to shorten their commercial litigation backlogs.

The food stamp cuts are partly because a temporary boost in payments as part of the 2009 federal stimulus law has expired. Congress's abysmal failure to pass a new farm bill is also part of the mix.

There's no question this will cause hardship for people, including children and disabled and elderly adults. On the other hand, the boost was intended to be temporary. I get frustrated with the people on one side who want to make excessive food stamp usage permanent, and I get frustrated with people on the other side who want to knock it back and leave hungry.

Instead of fighting over food stamps we should be fighting for fair wages.

Barbara Shelly is a columnist for the Kansas City Star. Readers may write to her by email at bshelly@kcstar.com.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 15 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 86° ▼ 77°	▲ 86° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°

Micronesia

Guam And Rota Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▼ 79
Palau Thunderstorms	▲ 87 ▼ 78
Yap Showers	▲ 89 ▼ 78
Chuuk Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 79
Pohnpei Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 75
Kosrae Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 75
Majuro Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 80

Around The Globe

Auckland Showers	▲ 66 ▼ 57
Beijing Sunny	▲ 57 ▼ 32
Hong Kong Mostly Sunny	▲ 84 ▼ 74
Honolulu Partly Cloudy	▲ 85 ▼ 72
London Showers	▲ 54 ▼ 45
Los Angeles Sunny	▲ 79 ▼ 53
Manila Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 78
Melbourne Mostly Cloudy	▲ 68 ▼ 50
Miami Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 73
New York Partly Cloudy	▲ 63 ▼ 56
Osaka Showers	▲ 69 ▼ 55
Paris Showers	▲ 62 ▼ 51
Pusan Sunny	▲ 70 ▼ 47
Rome Mostly Sunny	▲ 73 ▼ 61
Salem Cloudy	▲ 57 ▼ 49
San Francisco Partly Cloudy	▲ 73 ▼ 53
Seoul Sunny	▲ 59 ▼ 38
Tokyo Showers	▲ 70 ▼ 53
Washington, DC Mostly Cloudy	▲ 64 ▼ 53

Tides

Sunrise/Sunset

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:15 AM	5:46 PM	Today	8:39 AM	8:22 PM
Thursday	6:15 AM	5:46 PM	Thursday	9:39 AM	9:23 PM
Friday	6:16 AM	5:46 PM	Friday	10:36 AM	10:24 PM
Saturday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM	Saturday	11:29 AM	11:23 PM
Sunday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM	Sunday	12:19 PM	

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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ISLAND SNAPSHTOS

Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

BUSINESS

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

SAMUT SARI

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

TRAVELOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 2, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5038	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA5078	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA5072	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	1:35pm	2:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
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ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	2:40pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
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SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)

DL287	6:05am	11:25pm	2, 6 via NRT
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SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:30pm	7:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

0Z608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7
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SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

0Z606	2:10am	6:00am	1
0Z602	2:20am	5:50am	3
0Z606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z603	3:30am	7:20am	4, 7
0Z604	2:00pm	5:30pm	6
0Z604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
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SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5
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SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am
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Business

BOH awards \$25K to five Saipan businesses

Bank of Hawaii has named five small businesses on Saipan as recipients of the I Kinometi Para I Kumunidat I Islâ-ta Small Business Revitalization and Development Grants. Each awardee received \$5,000.

Bank of Hawaii established the grant program in 2012 to help promote new Saipan businesses and to encourage existing small businesses to expand.

■ **3 Strand Christian Outlet** will purchase dining room furniture, air conditioning and a new freezer to help with the expansion of its café.

■ **I.T.C. & Sons Hydroponic Farm** will purchase inventory, fertilizer and equipment to expand its hydroponic lettuce operations.

■ **Rowin's** will purchase materials and hire new employees

to manage and harvest 40 additional bee colonies in its wholesale honey production.

■ **SUP Saipan** will purchase two additional stand-up paddleboards and hire a new instructor for its rental service.

■ **The Shack, Inc.** will train and hire two new employees to expand its breakfast and lunch service hours.

Bank of Hawaii is commit-

ted to encouraging economic development to help its communities grow and thrive. In addition to this grant program, Bank of Hawaii continues to support the Saipan community through grants made by Bank of Hawaii Foundation and through the work of its employees who provide financial education and serve on the boards of local nonprofits. (BOH)



Bank of Hawaii senior vice president John Sheather and Sharon Abragan from 3 Strand Christian Outlet.

BANK OF HAWAII



Bank of Hawaii senior vice president John Sheather and Rosiky Camacho look over a vat of Rowin's honey.

BANK OF HAWAII



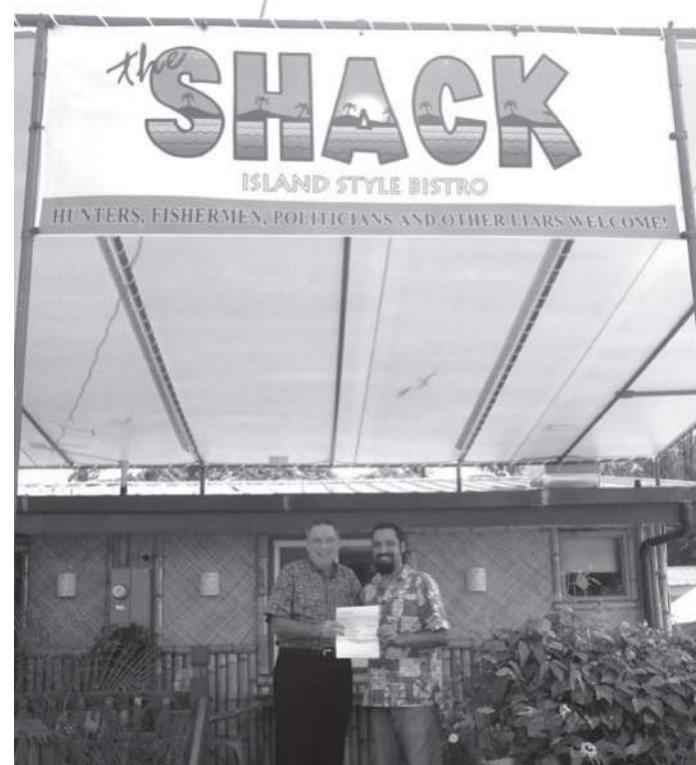
From left, Ponce Rasa, Bank of Hawaii senior vice president John Sheather, and SUP Saipan owner Merissa Rasa.

BANK OF HAWAII



Bank of Hawaii senior vice president John Sheather and Isodoro Cabrera of I.T.C. & Sons Hydroponic Farm.

BANK OF HAWAII



Bank of Hawaii senior vice president John Sheather and Glen Hunter from The Shack, Inc.

BANK OF HAWAII

BlackBerry abandons bid to sell itself, CEO out

TORONTO (AP)—BlackBerry has abandoned its bid to sell itself and is replacing its chief executive.

Fairfax Financial, BlackBerry's largest shareholder with a 10 percent stake, said Monday it won't buy the struggling smartphone company and take it private. Instead, Fairfax and other investors will inject \$1 billion as part of a

revised investment proposal.

BlackBerry said CEO Thorsten Heins is stepping down. Heins took over in early 2012 after the company lost billions in market value, but he failed to turn the company around this year with the launch of BlackBerry's new devices.

Former Sybase Chief Executive John Chen was appointed

chairman of BlackBerry's board of directors and will serve as interim CEO. Fairfax head Prem Watsa has also been named a board member.

BlackBerry announced in September that Fairfax Financial Holdings Ltd. signed a letter of intent that contemplated buying BlackBerry for \$9 a share, or \$4.7 billion, and taking it private. Fair-

fax said then it wouldn't increase its 10 percent stake and the company went about trying to attract other investors.

Watsa said Fairfax did due diligence and worked with a consulting company that recommended that taking BlackBerry private with borrowed money was not the way to go.

"To load this company with too much debt was not appropriate," Watsa told The Associated Press. "We didn't want it lever-

aged. We didn't even bother to go there. Once we decided that a leveraged buy-out with high debt was not appropriate we didn't push it any further. We backed off completely."

Watsa said BlackBerry needs financial flexibility. "We probably could do it, but we decided not to add high yield debt to the company's capital structure," he said.

He said five or six investors had been interested in a buyout.

The founders of BlackBerry,

Mike Lazaridis and Doug Frechin, partnered with New York investment firm Cerberus Capital Management LP and cell-phone chip maker Qualcomm Inc. on a rival bid for BlackBerry, two people familiar with the bid said. The people, who were not authorized to talk publicly about it, said the bidders wanted more time and more information to put a proposal together but were told the company was being taken off the market.



LEADING INDICATORS

DOW

15,639.12
23.57
+0.15%

S&P

1,376.51
3.73
+0.27%

NASDAQ

1,767.93
6.29
+0.36%

In U.S. dollar terms

EXCHANGE RATES

Australian Dollar	1.0555
British Pound	0.6263
Canadian Dollar	1.044
Chinese Yuan	6.0971
Euro	0.7406

Hong Kong Dollar

7.7516

Indian Rupee

61.83

Philippine Peso

43.275

Singapore Dollar

1.2423

South Korean Won

1061.45

Swiss Franc

0.9108

Taiwan Dollar

29.425

Thailand Baht

31.28

Nation

Anti-bias gay rights bill clears first hurdle in Senate

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate pushed a major anti-bias gay rights bill past a first, big hurdle Monday, a clear sign of Americans' greater acceptance of homosexuality nearly two decades after the law prohibiting federal recognition of same-sex marriage.

The vote of 61-30 essentially ensured that the Senate has the votes to pass the Employment Non-Discrimination Act that would prohibit workplace discrimination against gay, bisexual and transgender Americans.

Final passage, possibly by week's end, would cap a 17-year quest to secure Senate support for a similar discrimination measure that failed by one vote in 1996, the same year Congress passed and President Bill Clinton signed the Defense of Marriage Act.

Reflecting the nation's shifting views toward gay rights

and the fast-changing political dynamic, seven Senate Republicans joined with 54 Democrats to vote to move ahead on the legislation.

"Rights are sometimes intangible but, boy if you've ever been discriminated against, seeking employment or seeking an advancement, it's bitter," Sen. Tammy Baldwin, D-Wis., the only openly gay member of the Senate, said after the vote. "And it's been a long, long fight, but I think its day has come. And that's just very exciting to witness."

The legislation would be the first significant gay rights legislation since Congress ended the ban on gays serving openly in the military in December 2010. The Supreme Court in June affirmed gay marriage and granted federal benefits to legally married same-sex couples while same-sex marriage

is legal in 14 states and the District of Columbia.

About a half hour after the Senate acted, President Barack Obama cited the vote as an example of "common sense starting to prevail" in a Congress that has opposed much of his agenda.

"Inexorably, the idea of a more tolerant, more prosperous country that offers more opportunity to more people, that's an idea that the vast majority of Americans believe in," the president told a group of supporters gathered for a summit in Washington Monday night.

Prospects are dimmer in the Republican-led House where Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, remains opposed.

Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, a chief sponsor of the legislation, said the 60-plus bipartisan vote should force the House to vote on the legislation.

"It was Republican votes that

made the difference tonight and that that is a strong signal," Collins aid. "I also think that attitudes are changing very rapidly on gay rights issues and we're seeing that with each passing day. More and more people have embraced equality."

The vote served as a vivid reminder of the nation's changing views and lingering resistance to homosexuality. The political implications resonated in Maine, as six-term Democratic Rep. Mike Michaud, who is running for governor, said he was gay and questioned whether it still mattered to voters.

In high drama for the Senate, the typical 15-minute vote stretched beyond 30 minutes of waiting and cajoling.

Two backers of the measure—Sens. Claire McCaskill of Missouri and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska—were on planes back to Washington. That left

sponsors stuck at 58 of the necessary 60 votes, forcing Collins and Jeff Merkley, D-Ore., to lobby fiercely, sometimes at the door of the Republican cloakroom off the Senate floor.

Minutes into the vote, Sen. Kelly Ayotte of New Hampshire emerged to vote yes. Then the outcome rested with Sens. Rob Portman of Ohio, who announced earlier this year that his son was gay and he supported same-sex marriage, and Sen. Pat Toomey of Pennsylvania.

After extended discussions, Portman and Toomey emerged to vote yes.

"I have long believed that more legal protections are appropriate to prevent employment discrimination based on sexual orientation," Toomey said in a statement after the vote, in which he promised to offer an amendment to protect religious freedom.

Ohio man on trial in shooting of wife in hospital

AKRON, Ohio (AP)—An Ohio man wrote an apologetic note before taking a taxi to visit his hospitalized wife, shooting her in the head as she lay in bed and then trying to kill himself before authorities took his gun, a prosecutor said Monday at the start of the man's murder trial.

An attorney for John Wise, who is pursuing an insanity defense, didn't deny the shooting in opening statements but depicted the Massillon man as a loving husband who had declined after his wife



Wise

was hospitalized, spiraling to a point of despair.

Wise, 68, could face life in prison if convicted of killing his wife, Barbara, in August 2012.

Testimony was expected to continue Tuesday before a jury of seven men and five women. It's not clear whether Wise might testify.

Nothing in Wise's past would have indicated he would fatally shoot his wife of 45 years, lawyer Paul Adamson told jurors in Akron during Monday's opening statements.

Adamson said a psychiatrist serving as an expert witness will testify that Wise's mental state declined in the week before the shooting as he struggled with his inability to help his wife and his own physical ailments, which included chronic heart disease, diabetes and several others.

"Who in their right mind would take a gun into a hospital and shoot someone?" Adamson said. He said Wise didn't know "the unlawfulness of his act."

Friends of the couple call it a mercy killing, but that's not a legal defense in Ohio.

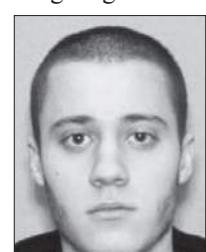
Wise, dressed in a gray suit and seated in a wheelchair, appeared teary-eyed in court as a prosecutor recounted how the defendant visited his wife at the hospital days after she suffered a brain aneurysm. He returned home and wrote an apologetic note, then took a taxi back to the hospital, armed with a gun his son had given him for security, Summit County Assistant Prosecutor Brian LoPrinzi said.

"He had a gun, a 9 mm semi-automatic pistol. He put it in a bag, and he writes a note: 'I'm sorry for the way I did this. Do not resuscitate,' or words to that effect," LoPrinzi said.

Authorities look at LAX shooter's government view

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Federal investigators probing what motivated a gunman to shoot security checkpoint workers at Los Angeles International airport are looking for connections to a long-circulated conspiracy theory that the U.S. government is preparing to oppress citizens under a totalitarian state.

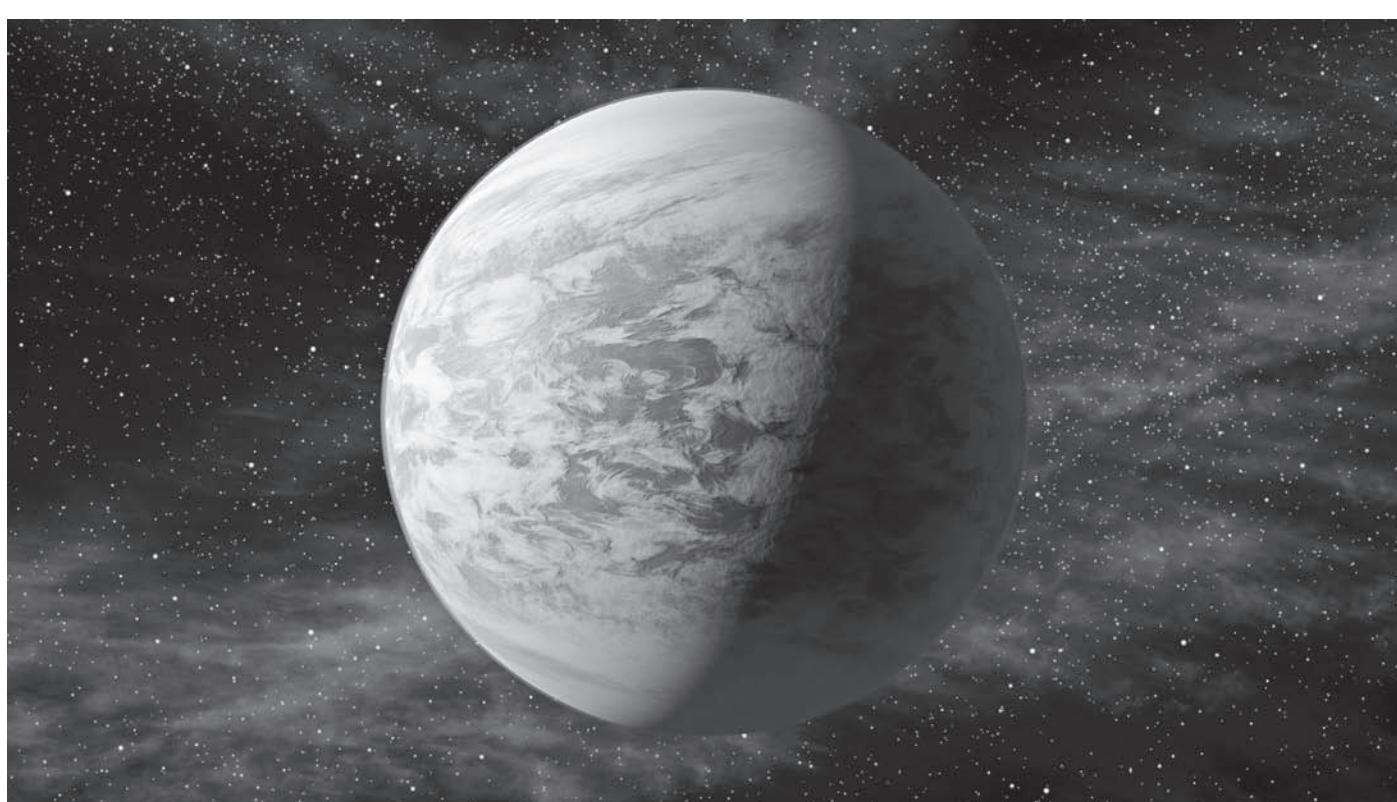
The FBI got a warrant Monday to search the cellphone of alleged gunman Paul Ciancia



for materials reflecting his "views on the legitimacy or activities of the United States Government, including the existence of a plot to impose a New World Order," according to court documents.

Ciancia, a 23-year-old unemployed motorcycle mechanic, got a ride to LAX on Friday morning with a roommate, walked into the airport and began targeting Transportation Security Administration officers, according to authorities. By the time LAX police officers subdued him with several gunshots, one TSA officer had been killed and two others injured.

On Monday, Ciancia's family offered sympathy to the family of slain TSA screener Gerardo I. Hernandez. In a brief statement read by a family attorney in Ciancia's hometown of in Pennsville, N.J., family members also expressed shock at the rampage and hope for the recovery of the surviving victims.



This artist's rendering provided by NASA shows Kepler-69c, a super-Earth-size planet in the habitable zone of a star like our sun, located about 2,700 light-years from Earth in the constellation Cygnus.

Study: 8.8 billion Earth-size, just-right planets

WASHINGTON (AP)—Space is vast, but it may not be so lonely after all: A study finds the Milky Way is teeming with billions of planets that are about the size of Earth, orbit stars just like our sun, and exist in the Goldilocks zone—not too hot and not too cold for life.

Astronomers using NASA data have calculated for the first time that in our galaxy alone, there are at least 8.8 billion stars with Earth-size planets in the habitable temperature zone.

The study was published Monday in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*.

For perspective, that's more Earth-like planets than there are people on Earth.

As for what it says about the

odds that there is life somewhere out there, it means "just in our Milky Way galaxy alone, that's 8.8 billion throws of the biological dice," said study co-author Geoff Marcy, a longtime planet hunter from the University of California at Berkeley.

The next step, scientists say, is to look for atmospheres on these planets with powerful space telescopes that have yet to be launched. That would yield further clues to whether any of these planets do, in fact, harbor life.

The findings also raise a blaring question, Marcy said: If we aren't alone, why is "there a deafening silence in our Milky Way galaxy from advanced civilizations?"

In the Milky Way, about 1 in 5 stars that are like our sun in

size, color and age have planets that are roughly Earth's size and are in the habitable zone where life-crucial water can be liquid, according to intricate calculations based on four years of observations from NASA's now-crippled Kepler telescope.

If people on Earth could only travel in deep space, "you'd probably see a lot of traffic jams," Bill Borucki, NASA's chief Kepler scientist, joked Monday.

The Kepler telescope peered at 42,000 stars, examining just a tiny slice of our galaxy to see how many planets like Earth are out there. Scientists then extrapolated that figure to the rest of the galaxy, which has hundreds of billions of stars.

For the first time, scientists calculated—not estimated—

what percent of stars that are just like our sun have planets similar to Earth: 22 percent, with a margin of error of plus or minus 8 percentage points.

Kepler scientist Natalie Batalha said there is still more data to pore over before this can be considered a final figure.

There are about 200 billion stars in our galaxy, with 40 billion of them like our sun, Marcy said. One of his co-authors put the number of sun-like stars closer to 50 billion, meaning there would be at least 11 billion planets like ours.

Based on the 1-in-5 estimate, the closest Earth-size planet that is in the habitable temperature zone and circles a sun-like star is probably within 70 trillion miles of Earth, Marcy said.

Asia

India vies for elite role in space with Mars trip

NEW DELHI (AP)—India is aiming to join the world's deep-space pioneers with a journey to Mars that it hopes will showcase its technological ability to explore the solar system while seeking solutions for everyday problems on Earth.

With a Tuesday launch planned for Mangalyaan, which means "Mars craft" in Hindi, India will attempt to become only the fourth country or group of countries to reach the red planet, after the Soviet Union, United States and Europe.

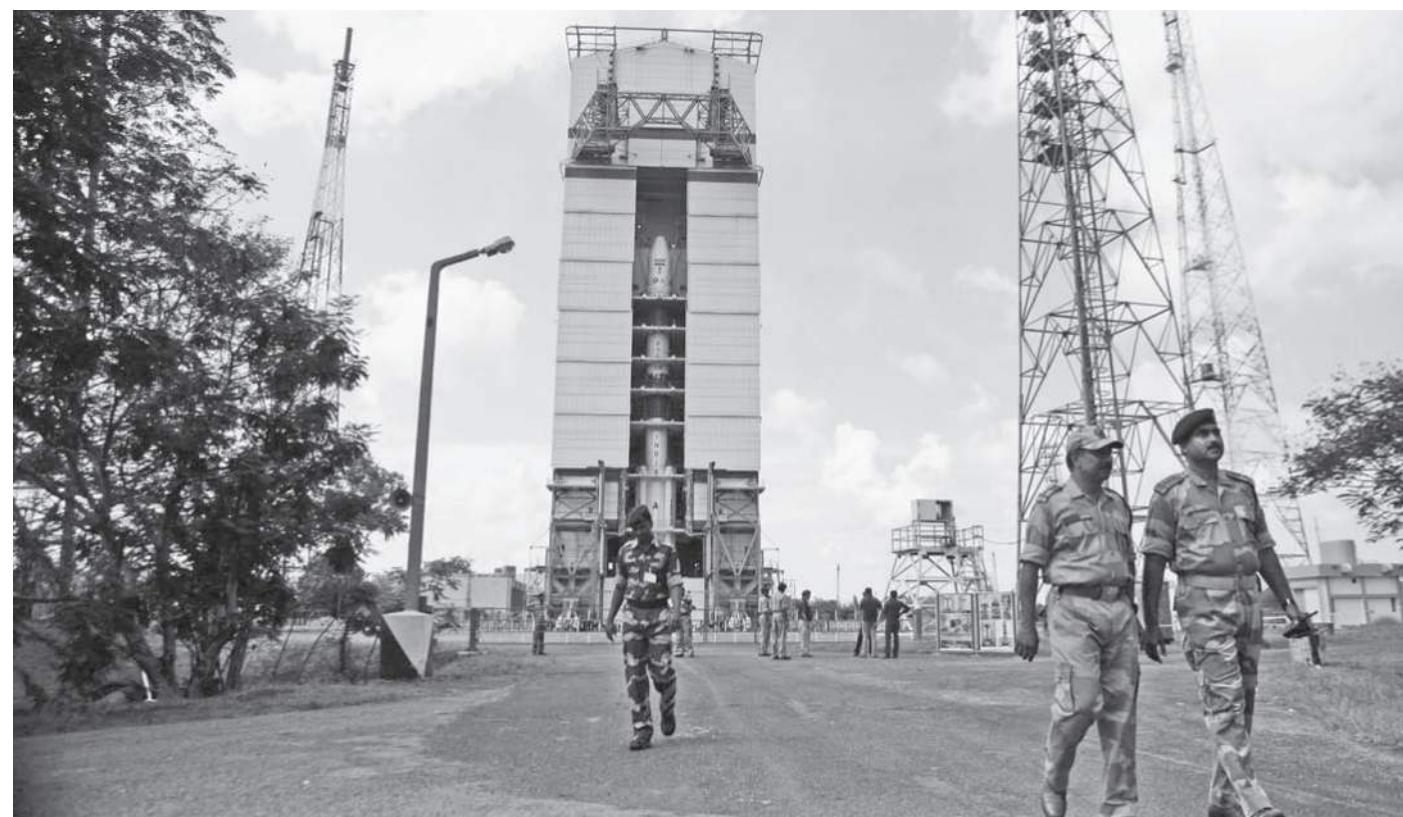
"We have a lot to understand about the universe, the solar system where we live in, and it has been humankind's quest from the beginning," said K. Radhakrishnan, chairman of the Indian Space and Research Organization.

India sees its Mars mission primarily as a "technology demonstration," Radhakrishnan said. "We want to use the first opportunity to put a spacecraft and orbit it around Mars and, once it is there safely, then conduct a few meaningful experiments and energize the scientific community."

Radhakrishnan admits the aim is high. This is India's first Mars mission, and no country has been fully successful on its first try. More than half the world's attempts to reach Earth's planetary neighbor—23 out of 40 missions—have failed, including missions by Japan in 1999 and China in 2011.

If India can pull it off, it will demonstrate a highly capable space program that belongs within an elite club of governments exploring outer space.

Mangalyaan is scheduled to blast off Tuesday from the Indian space center on the southeastern island of Sriharikota, the start of a 300-day, 780 million-kilometer (485 million-mile) journey to orbit Mars and survey



In this Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2013 photo, Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel walk near the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV - C25) at the Satish Dhawan Space Center at Sriharikota, in the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.

its geology and atmosphere.

Five solar-powered instruments aboard Mangalyaan will gather data to help determine how Martian weather systems work and what happened to the water that is believed to have once existed on Mars in large quantities. It also will search Mars for methane, a key chemical in life processes on Earth that could also come from geological processes. None of the instruments will send back enough data to answer these questions definitively, but experts say the data are key to better understanding how planets form, what conditions might make life possible and where else in the universe it might exist.

Some of the data will complement research expected to be conducted with a spacecraft NASA will launch later this month, the Mars Atmosphere

and Volatile Evolution mission, nicknamed MAVEN.

"We're pulling for India," said Bruce Jakosky, project leader for the U.S. spacecraft. "The more players we have in space exploration the better."

If successful, the two new orbiters would join three already circling Mars—NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter and Mars Odyssey, and the European Space Agency's Mars Express. On the Martian surface, NASA's Curiosity and Opportunity rovers are rolling across rocky terrain.

Radhakrishnan said that although sending a spacecraft to Mars would bring India immense prestige, "we are doing this for ourselves. The main thrust of space science in India has always been people-centric, to benefit the common man and society."

India, as well known for its endemic poverty and hunger as for its technological prowess, has used research in space and elsewhere to help solve problems at home, from gauging water levels in underground aquifers to predicting catastrophic storms and floods.

India's \$1 billion-a-year space program has helped develop satellite, communication and remote sensing technologies that are being used to measure coastal soil erosion, assess the extent of remote flooding and manage forest cover for wildlife sanctuaries. They are giving fishermen real-time data on where to find fish and helping to predict natural disasters such as a cyclone that barreled into India's eastern coast last month. Early warning information allowed Indian officials to evacuate nearly a million people

from the massive storm's path.

Indian scientists also have led at least 30 research missions to Antarctica, despite being nearly 12,000 kilometers (7,500 miles) from the icy continent. They are working to expand mineral mining in the deep sea, designating that as a priority area for scientific research. And in 2008, the Indian Space and Research Organization successfully launched a lunar orbiter, Chandrayaan-1, which discovered evidence of water on the Moon.

Its advances have helped raise the international profile of the world's largest democracy of 1.2 billion people. India is lobbying for a permanent seat on the U.N. Security Council, a move it says would better reflect new realities in a fast-changing world needing more technological solutions.

Mangalyaan was developed

from technology tested during the recent lunar orbiter mission. An evolved version of India's domestically developed Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, with extended rockets, will take Mangalyaan into an elliptical arc around the Earth.

The satellite's thrusters will then begin a series of six small fuel burns, moving it into higher orbit before it slingshots toward the red planet.

The 1,350-kilogram orbiter is expected to reach its designated orbit Sept. 24, 2014, and will be joined above Mars by MAVEN.

"I know I'm an absolute wreck with ours coming up in two weeks," Jakosky said. "... There are 10,000 things that need to go right in order for it to succeed, and it can take only one thing going wrong for it to fail."

Mangalyaan is expected to have at least six months to investigate the planet's landscape and atmosphere. At its closest point it will be 365 kilometers (227 miles) from the planet's surface, and at its furthest—80,000 kilometers (49,700 miles).

India's space enthusiasts say the \$73 million Mars mission will be a step toward understanding the natural world, inspiring children to go into research science and advancing science and technology in ways that help common people cope with a changing environment. Learning more about alien weather systems, for example, might reveal more about our own.

"To visit another planet is a fantastic thing, the biggest thing," said space scientist Yash Pal, a former chairman of the country's University Grants Commission who was not involved in developing the Mars mission. "If you can afford airplanes and war machines you can certainly spend something to fulfill the dreams of young people."

ASIA BRIEFS

Violence continues in Bangladesh strike

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—An opposition-enforced general strike hampered public life for a second day Tuesday in Bangladesh as violence was reported in parts of the country. The nationwide strike was meant to force the government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to quit to allow for a caretaker government with people from outside political parties to oversee upcoming elections. On Tuesday, opposition activists clashed with police in northwestern district of Rajshahi, leaving at least 25 people injured, Somoy TV station reported. It said three activists were detained. Separately, ruling Awami League activists clashed with the opposition supporters in central Bangladesh's Munshiganj district, leaving scores injured, Channel 24 station reported.

Family members to visit blind China activist in US

BEIJING (AP)—The brother of blind Chinese lawyer Chen Guangcheng says he'll fly to the U.S. on Wednesday with his mother for a family reunion. Chen Guangfu said Tuesday that no decision has been made on how long they'll stay in New York. Chen Guangcheng has lived in New York since soon after escaping house arrest in China in dramatic fashion in April last year with his wife and two children. Chen dodged a security cordon around his home in east China's Shandong province and sought refuge in the U.S. Embassy in Beijing. Then Secretary of State Hillary Clinton

prevailed on Chinese officials to allow him to leave for the U.S. After a one-year fellowship at New York University, Chen now is sponsored by the Catholic University of America, the Witherspoon Institute and the Lantos Foundation for Human Rights and Justice.

NIKorean naval vessel sank last month, reports say

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)—A North Korean naval vessel sank last month, killing an unspecified number of officers and sailors, according to North and South Korean media. The North's official Korean Central News Agency provided few concrete details, and there was no clue as to what might have happened. KCNA said in a dispatch Saturday that the deaths came while a submarine chaser was performing "combat duties." North Korea rarely releases details about military mishaps or accidents. The rest of the dispatch was devoted to a recent visit by leader Kim Jong Un to a "cemetery of fallen fighters." He was shown in state media inspecting a large number of stone markers that carried photos of sailors. KCNA's dispatch said the incident happened in October, but did not give a date.

Bangladesh to raise garment workers' minimum wage

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—A government-appointed panel in Bangladesh voted Monday to raise the minimum wage for millions of garment workers to about \$66 a month—still the lowest

in the world and well below what workers have been seeking. The harsh and often unsafe working conditions in Bangladesh's garment industry drew global attention after the collapse of an eight-story factory building killed more than 1,100 people in April. In another horrific case, a fire last November killed 112 workers. Garment workers have been demanding 8,114 takas (\$100) instead of the current monthly minimum wage of 3,000 takas (\$38), which is the lowest in the world. On Monday, the wage board raised the minimum wage by about 77 percent, to 5,300 takas (\$66.25).

1,000s protest in Thai capital over amnesty bill

BANGKOK (AP)—Thousands of people marched in Thailand's capital and blocked a major road on Monday to protest an amnesty bill they said is designed to bring former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra back from overseas exile. More than 5,000 people blew whistles and temporarily halted traffic in Bangkok's financial district of Silom at lunchtime to protest the legislation, which was approved by the lower house of Parliament on Friday. About 15,000 others joined a peaceful march by the opposition Democrat Party through another part of the city, police said. The party had staged a rally that drew thousands of supporters since Thursday. The bill would grant amnesties to those involved in the sometimes-violent political conflict that has sharply divided the country for almost a decade.

World

Germany raid yields 1,500 artworks seized by Nazis

By HENRY CHU
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LONDON—The elderly gentleman appeared nervous when authorities questioned him during a customs check aboard a train from Switzerland to Germany. He was carrying about \$12,000 in cash, just within the legal limit.

But a feeling that something was not quite right eventually led them several months later to raid the apartment in Munich where the man lived as a recluse.

What they found was astonishing: paintings by Pablo Picasso, Marc Chagall, Henri Matisse and Paul Klee among 1,500 works of art crammed amid piles of canned food. Some or all of the art, estimated to be worth \$1.3 billion or more, was thought to have been looted by the Nazis more than 70 years ago. That would make it one of the largest such troves recovered since World War II.

The stunning find was reported Sunday by the German newsmagazine *Focus*. It said the collection found in the possession of Cornelius Gurlitt, the 80-year-old son of a well-known Nazi-era art dealer, included pieces that were thought to have been lost or



paintings and other artworks, which puts the Munich hoard, for all its unprecedented size, into grim perspective.

Robert Edsel, author of the book "The Monuments Men," which chronicles the search for and recovery of art looted during World War II, said the discovery validated the view that what had been discovered so far was the tip of the iceberg.

"The theft is being solved in what seems like slow motion—one day there might be a story, but the only people following it are art historians or people who follow Nazi looting," said Edsel, whose book is being made into a movie starring George Clooney, Matt Damon and Bill Murray. It will be released early next year.

Edsel said he is working with filmmakers on a project to be announced late this month that will ask the public's help in expediting the recovery of still-missing works of art.

Gurlitt's home was raided in early 2011, *Focus* reported. German authorities have kept mum as they moved the items into safe storage outside Munich and started to untangle the knot of issues surrounding provenance and rightful ownership.

The German government told reporters Monday that it was notified of the haul several months ago by Bavarian officials and that it was assisting with the investigation.

Egypt's Morsi defiant as his trial begins

CAIRO (AP)—Ousted President Mohammed Morsi refused to wear a prison jumpsuit, entering the caged dock in a dark business suit as his co-defendants applauded. He defiantly questioned the legitimacy of the court and proclaimed himself still Egypt's leader. His fellow Muslim Brotherhood members chanted, "Down with military rule!"

Morsi's long-awaited trial got off to a chaotic start Monday, with outbursts and interruptions, and it was quickly adjourned until Jan. 8.

The dramatic first public appearance for Morsi since the July 3 military coup that removed him from power was meant to be a step toward due process. Instead, it highlighted the challenges facing Egypt's interim authorities as they attempt to close a chapter of his presidency, while his Islamist supporters seek to disrupt the effort.

Morsi and 14 co-defendants—seven of whom are still at large—are charged with inciting the killing of protesters who massed outside the presidential palace in December 2012 and demanded that he call off a referendum on a new Islamist-drafted con-

Turmoil continues

After four months in secret detention, Egypt's ousted leader Mohammed Morsi rejected a court's authority to try him, telling the judge the case is illegitimate as he remains president.

Events since Morsi ousted

- **July 3** Egypt's military chief Gen. Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi announces that Morsi has been deposed
- **July 8** Egyptian soldiers fire on Morsi supporters protesting outside a military facility in Cairo, killing more than 50
- **Aug. 14** Security forces move in on two huge protest camps in Cairo; more than 600 people, mostly Morsi supporters, are killed; authorities declare a month-long state of emergency
- **Aug. 20** The Brotherhood's supreme guide Mohamed Badie is arrested
- **Sept. 12** State of emergency is extended for two more months
- **Sept. 23** Court bans Muslim Brotherhood activities; assets confiscated
- **Oct. 9** The U.S. suspends delivery of tanks, helicopters and fighter jets to Egypt's military in a show of disapproval over the anti-Brotherhood crackdown
- **Nov. 4** Morsi goes to stand trial on charges of inciting the murder outside his presidential palace in Dec. 2012; proceeding are adjourned until Jan. 8

Source: Reuters, AP, BBC, MCT Photo Service



Mohammed Morsi

1977 Joined the Islamist Muslim Brotherhood
2000-2005 Member of parliament as an independent since the Brotherhood was banned from fielding candidates; headed the Brotherhood's unofficial bloc
2011 Becomes chairman of the Brotherhood-linked Freedom and Justice Party
2012 Wins election to become first freely elected civilian president

Graphic: Melina Yingling © 2013 MCT

found a dealer who had two stolen pictures in his safe when he died, and we thought that was pretty shocking because he had actually been put in jail by the French in 1946 for being part of the Holocaust looting. ... To find one on this scale is exceptional."

Overall, the Nazis are suspected of plundering 650,000

Shootings, bombings kill 12 in Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP)—A double suicide bombing and other attacks killed 12 people in Iraq on Monday, said officials, while Iraqi legislators passed a law laying the groundwork for next year's parliamentary elections.

Violence has spiked in Iraq since April, with the pace of killing reaching levels unseen since 2008. U.N. figures released last week showed that at least 979 people, mostly civilians, were killed last month alone.

The latest attacks came two days after Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki returned from a trip to Washington in which he sought assistance fighting the insurgency, including weapons and help with intelligence.

President Barack Obama pledged Friday to help combat an increasingly active al-Qaida in Iraq but stopped short of announcing new commitments of the assistance al-Maliki sought.

Al-Maliki's trip sparked criticism in Iraq, where he faces discontent from across the sectarian divide. Shiites are upset with his failure to provide security, and Sunnis are angry at their perceived second-class citizen treatment.

One of al-Maliki's harshest

stitution. Brotherhood members attacked a sit-in by the protesters, sparking clashes that left 10 people dead.

Before Monday's session

began, silent video broadcast on state TV showed Morsi arriving in a minibus outside the makeshift courtroom at a police academy in eastern Cairo. He

clapped. Chants from his fellow defendants followed: "Down, down with military rule!"

The defense lawyers

critics is Muqtada al-Sadr, a firebrand Shiite cleric who is also trying to build an alliance with Sunni parties. According to the Iraqi media, Sadr criticized the trip to the country whose troops occupied Iraq from 2003 to 2011, playing on anti-American sentiment that remains strong in many communities.

On Monday, al-Maliki's office lashed back in an unusually harshly worded statement, recalling the human rights abuses of both Sunni insurgents and militias associated with the Sadr movement.

Sadr "has the right to exercise early electoral campaigning, but he should not belittle the Iraqis' minds and memory... They also remember the control of (Sadr's) militia that fostered murder, kidnapping and theft in Basra, Karbala, Baghdad and other provinces," the statement said.

In a statement issued on Monday, Iraq's Vice President Khudeir al-Khuzaie set April 30, 2014, as the date for the next national elections. Al-Maliki has not ruled out seeking a third term next year despite charges from opponents that his administration is a dictatorship in the making.

Focus

TRI NGUYEN ISLAND, Vietnam (AP)—Nguyen Thi Yen rolls up the sleeves of her white lab coat and delicately slips her arms into a box covered by a sheath of mesh netting. Immediately, the feeding frenzy begins.

Hundreds of mosquitoes light on her thin forearms and swarm her manicured fingers. They spit, bite and suck until becoming drunk with blood, their bulging bellies glowing red. Yen laughs in delight while her so-called “pets” enjoy their lunch and prepare to mate.

The petite, grandmotherly entomologist—nicknamed Dr. Dracula—knows how crazy she must look to outsiders. But this is science, and these are very special bloodsuckers.

She smiles and nods at her red-hot arms, swollen and itchy after 10 minutes of feeding. She knows those nasty bites could reveal a way to greatly reduce one of the world’s most menacing infectious diseases.

All her mosquitoes have been intentionally infected with bacteria called Wolbachia, which essentially blocks them from getting dengue. And if they can’t get it, they can’t spread it to people.

New research suggests some 390 million people are infected with the virus each year, most of them in Asia. That’s about one in every 18 people on Earth, and more than three times higher than the World Health Organization’s previous estimates.

Known as “breakbone fever” because of the excruciating joint pain and hammer-pounding headaches it causes, the disease has no vaccine, cure or specific treatment. Most patients must simply suffer through days of raging fever, sweats and a bubbling rash. For those who develop a more serious form of illness, known as dengue hemorrhagic fever, internal bleeding, shock, organ failure and death can occur.

And it’s all caused by one bite from a female mosquito that’s transmitting the virus from another infected person.

So how can simple bacteria break this cycle? Wolbachia is commonly found in many insects, including fruit flies. But for reasons not fully understood, it is not carried naturally by certain mosquitoes, including the most common one that transmits dengue, the *Aedes aegypti*.

The germ has fascinated scientist Scott O’Neill his entire career. He started working with it about two decades ago at Yale University. But it wasn’t until 2008, after returning to his native Australia, that he had his eureka moment.

One of his research students figured out how to implant the bacteria into a mosquito so it could be passed on to future generations. The initial hope was that it would shorten the insect’s life. But soon, a hidden benefit was discovered: Wolbachia-infected mosquitoes not only died quicker but they also blocked dengue partially or entirely, sort of like a natural vaccine.

“The dengue virus couldn’t grow in the mosquito as well if the Wolbachia was present,” says O’Neill, dean of science at Monash University in Melbourne. “And if it can’t grow in the mosquito, it can’t be transmitted.”

But proving something in the lab is just the first step. O’Neill’s team needed to test how well the mosquitoes would perform in the wild. They con-

ON THE NET

<http://www.eliminatedengue.com/>



“I think, intuitively, it makes sense that it’s unlikely to have a major consequence of introducing Wolbachia into one more species,” O’Neill says, adding that none of his work is for profit. “It’s already in millions already.”

Dengue typically comes in cycles, hitting some areas harder in different years. People remain susceptible to the other strains after being infected with one, and it is largely an urban disease with mosquitoes breeding in stagnant water.

Laos and Singapore have experienced their worst outbreaks in recent history this season. Thailand has also struggled with a large number of patients. Cases have also been reported in recent years outside tropical regions, including in the U.S. and Europe.

Vietnam has logged lower numbers this year overall, but the country’s highest dengue rate is in the province where Yen is conducting her work.

At the area’s main hospital in Nha Trang, Dr. Nguyen Dong, director of infectious diseases, says 75 of the 86 patients crammed into the open-air ward are infected with the virus.

Before jabbing his fingers into the stomach of one seriously ill patient to check for pain, he talks about how the dengue season has become much longer in recent years. And despite the government’s increased education campaigns and resources, the disease continues to overwhelm the hospital.

If the experiment going on just a short boat ride away from the hospital is successful, it eventually will be expanded across the city and the entire province.

■ ■ ■

The 3,500 people on Tri Nguyen island grew accustomed to what would be a bizarre scene almost anywhere else: For five months, community workers went house-to-house in the raging heat, releasing cups of newborn mosquitoes.

And the residents were happy to have them.

“We do not kill the mosquitoes. We let them bite,” says fisherman Tran To. “The Wolbachia living in the house is like a doctor in the house. They may bite, but they stop dengue.”

Specimens collected from traps are taken back to the lab for analysis to determine how well Wolbachia mosquitoes are infiltrating the native population.

The strain of bacteria used on the island blocks dengue 100 percent, but it’s also the hardest to sustain. At one point, 90 percent of the mosquitoes were infected, but the rate dropped to about 65 percent after the last batch was released in early September. A similar decrease occurred in Australia as well, and scientists switched to other Wolbachia strains that thrive better in the wild but have lesser dengue-blocking abilities.

The job is sure to keep Yen busy in her little mosquito lab, complete with doors covered by long overlapping netting.

And while she professes to adore these pests nurtured by her own blood, she has a much stronger motivation for working with them: Dengue nearly claimed her own life many years ago, and her career has been devoted to sparing others the same fate.

“I love them,” she says, “when I need them.”

Vietnam releases dengue-blocking MOSQUITO

By MARGIE MASON
AP MEDICAL WRITER

ducted research in small communities in Australia, where dengue isn’t a problem, and the results were encouraging enough to create a buzz among scientists who have long been searching for new ways to fight the disease. After two and a half years, the Wolbachia-infected mosquitoes had overtaken the native populations and remained 95 percent dominant.

But how would it work in dengue-endemic areas of Southeast Asia? The disease swamps hospitals in the region every rainy season with thousands of sick patients, including many children, sometimes killing those who seek help too late.

The Australians tapped 58-year-old Yen at Vietnam’s National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology, where she’s worked for the past 35 years. Their plan was to test the Wolbachia mosquitoes on a small island off the country’s central coast this year, with another release expected next year in Indonesia.

Just getting the mosquitoes to Tri Nguyen Island was an adventure. Thousands of tiny black eggs laid on strips of paper inside feeding boxes had to be hand-carried inside coolers on weekly flights from Hanoi, where Yen normally works, to Nha Trang, a

resort city near the island. The eggs had to be kept at just the right temperature and moisture. The mosquitoes were hatched in another lab before finally being transported by boat.

Yen insisted on medical checks for all volunteer feeders to ensure they weren’t sickening her mosquitoes. She deemed vegetarian blood too weak and banned anyone recently on antibiotics, which could kill the Wolbachia.

“When I’m sleeping, I’m always thinking about them,” Yen says, hunkered over a petri dish filled with dozens of squirming mosquito pupae. “I’m always worried about temperature and food. I take care of them same-same like baby. If they are healthy, we are happy. If they are not, we are sad.”

■ ■ ■

Recently, there have been several promising new attempts to control dengue. A vaccine trial in Thailand didn’t work as well as hoped, proving only 30 percent effective overall, but it provided higher coverage for three of the four virus strains. More vaccines are in the pipeline. Other science involves releasing genetically modified “sterile” male mosquitoes that produce no offspring, or young that die before reaching maturity, to decrease populations.

Wolbachia could end up being used in combination with these and other methods, including mosquito traps and insecticide-treated materials.

“I’ve been working with this disease now for 40-something years, and we have failed miserably,” says Duane Gubler, a dengue expert at the Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School in Singapore who is not involved with the Wolbachia research.

“We are now coming into a very exciting period where I think we’ll be able to control the disease. I really do.”

Wolbachia also blocks other mosquito-borne diseases such as yellow fever and chikungunya, O’Neill says. Similar research is being conducted for malaria, though that’s trickier because the disease is carried by several different types of mosquitoes.

It’s unclear why mosquitoes that transmit dengue do not naturally get Wolbachia, which is found in up to 70 percent of insects in the wild. But O’Neill doesn’t believe that purposefully infecting mosquitoes will negatively impact ecosystems. He says the key to overcoming skepticism is to be transparent with research while providing independent risk analyses and publishing findings in high-caliber scientific journals.

Campus Life



Grace Christian Academy's Math Court medalists.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Grace Christian Academy's Thespian team.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congratulations to all GCA October winners

The administration, faculty, staff, and parents of Grace Christian Academy would like to extend their congratulations to the following winners and

everyone who participated in all the different competitions in the month of October.

The first Primary Grades Forensic Conference competition for kindergarten to 5th grades

and Thespians for 6th to 12th grades were held on Oct. 26 at Kagman Elementary School. The National Junior Forensic League competition for 6th to 8th grades and National Foren-

sic League competitions for 9th to 12th grades were held on Oct. 19 at Saipan Southern High School.

The National Forensic Board League—PGFC, NJFL, NFL,

and Thespians—has four monthly qualifying competitions within the school year.

The Math Court competitions have two qualifying monthly competitions and the first one for

6th to 12th grades was held on Oct. 12 at Kagman High School.

Both public and private schools participate in these competitions; all are supported by the Public School System.

PRIMARY GRADES FORENSIC CONFERENCE

K-2 Division

Impromptu Speaking A

Rex Adam Pixley, 2nd place
Briston James Jones, 5th place

Impromptu Speaking B

Kei Lizama, 1st place
Julianna Rue Magtalas, 2nd place
Timothy Neal, 3rd place

Readers Forum Masters A

Sara Elizabeth Keaton, 2nd place
Julianna Rue Magtalas, 3rd place

Dramatic Interpretation A

Moira Grace Ernest, 1st place
Eunice Nicole Pagaduan, 5th place

Humorous Interpretation A

Moira Grace Ernest, 2nd place
Kei Lizama, 3rd place
Tae Hee Kim, 4th place

Duo Interpretation B

Elijah Kosang Mizutani, 2nd place
Lance Andrei Lerio, 2nd place

Choral Speaking A

Briston James Jones, 1st place
Katelyn Mafnas, 1st place
Timothy Neal, 1st place
Eunice Nicole Pagaduan, 1st place

3-5 Division

Impromptu Speaking A

Elijah Joshua Pajarillaga, 1st place

Impromptu Speaking B

Heather Angel Pangilinan, 1st place
James Alexander Keaton, 2nd place
Matthew Gabriel Ernest, 3rd place
Jacob Anthony De Leon Guerrero, 4th place

Readers Forum A

Tommy Aldan, 3rd place
Brandie Matsumoto, 5th place

Readers Forum B

Deancey Adriel Chua, 3rd place

Readers Forum C

Mikaelah Owens, 2nd place

Reader's Forum Masters A

Maria Elizabeth Bonto, 2nd place



Grace Christian Academy's Primary Grades Forensic Conference winners.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Na Christy Lee, 3rd place

Reader's Forum Masters B
Jimin Woo, 1st place
Jonathan Lee, 4th place

Dramatic Interpretation A
Steven Adriatico, 4th place
Ryan Daproza, 5th place

Humorous Interpretation A
Jacob Anthony De Leon Guerrero, 2nd place
Jimin Woo, 3rd place

Duo Interpretation A
Justin Laurence Del Rosario, 5th place
Jaiden Kayla Sabugo, 5th place

Choral Speaking A
Anna Camille Nunez, 4th place
Justin Laurence Del Rosario, 4th place

Readers Forum A
Mirella Dilse, 4th place
Claire Angela Marzan, 4th place

PGFC coordinator: Esther Manzano

JUNIOR THESPIAN INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY (6TH-8TH GRADE)

Duet 1

Jim Michael Ham, 1st place
Martin Angelo Pangilinan, 1st place
Esther Kim, 4th place

Duet 2

Dianne Arnold, 1st place
Peggy Pixley, 1st place

Monologue A

Melody Woo, 1st place
Dianne Arnold, 1st place

Solo C

You Sun Lee, 3rd place
You Sun Lee, 2nd place

INTERNATIONAL THESPIAN SOCIETY (9TH-12TH GRADE)

Solo A

Rebekah Kim, 1st place
Josiah Trinidad, 3rd place
Paula Rose Talibong, 4th place

Bethany Garfil, 5th place

NATIONAL JUNIOR FORENSIC LEAGUE (6TH-8TH GRADE)

Prose Reading Masters A

Melody Woo, 1st place

Prose Reading C

Jim Michael Ham, 2nd place

Story Telling A

Dianne Arnold, 3rd place

Duo Interpretation B

Dianne Arnold, 1st place
Peggy Pixley, 1st place
Robert Hanrey Schorr, 3rd place
Sejin Kim, 3rd place

Duo Interpretation C

You Sun Lee, 2nd place
Esther Kim, 2nd place
April Seong, 3rd place
Yujin Kim, 3rd place

Humorous Interpretation B

Melody Woo, 1st place

Original Oratory A

Hyun In Noh, 2nd place

Impromptu Speech B

Dianne Arnold, 1st place

Impromptu Speech C

Martin Angelo Pangilinan, 4th place

Impromptu Speech D

Robert Hanrey Schorr, 2nd place

NATIONAL FORENSIC LEAGUE (9TH-12TH GRADE)

Original Oratory B

Minna Ito, 1st place

Expository Speech A

Minna Ito, 2nd place

Poetry Reading Masters B

Rebekah Kim, 2nd place

Prose Reading B

Bethany Garfil, 2nd place

6th Grade

Arvin Dayao, 1st place
Hyun In Noh, 1st place
Tae Yong Kim, 2nd place
Robert Hanrey Schorr, 5th place

7th Grade

Hyo Lim Cho, 1st place

8th Grade

Jae Yeon Lee, 1st place
Sin Young Park, 2nd place

High School (8TH-12TH GRADE)

Algebra I A103

Ren Rong Liu, 1st place

Algebra I C101

Philip Lee, 1st place

Geometry A103

Ren Rong Liu, 2nd place

Algebra II A103

Ren Rong Liu, 2nd place

Algebra II C101

Philip Lee, 2nd place

Math Court coordinator: Susan Pajarillaga

Life & Style

Thunder god takes his lumps in 'Thor: The Dark World'

By GINA MCINTYRE
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LONDON—A bone-chilling wind and a fine sheet of mist cascaded off the River Thames, but it wasn't the bitter blasts of air that sent Chris Hemsworth tumbling to the ground. Late on a November afternoon, the brawny Australian actor threw himself down onto the courtyard of the Old Royal Naval College in Greenwich over and over, filming scenes for what would eventually become the epic final battle in Marvel's "Thor: The Dark World."

The film, due out Friday, sees the God of Thunder facing off against a nemesis called Malekith, part of a race known as the Dark Elves, but actor Christopher Eccleston already had called it quits for the day. That left Thor, dressed in full armor, long red cape billowing out majestically behind him, to press on alone, with Hemsworth gamely absorbing imaginary blows for the cameras, again and again.

"I've been doing that for the last four, five, six weeks," Hemsworth said between takes. "Just rolling on the ground, on the rocks in Iceland, various locations around London. I'm like, 'When am I going to win one of these fights?' I'm on the receiving end of it all, and it ain't fun."

Bad weather and bruises are the least of Thor's worries in his second solo big-screen outing. Directed by Alan Taylor ("Game of Thrones"), "Thor: The Dark World" begins with the story of Malekith, who was ostensibly vanquished by Thor's grandfather but finds his way back from beyond with a plan to use a weapon called the Aether to plunge the Nine Realms of the universe into darkness.

Only by uniting with his devious



MARVEL STUDIOS/MCT

Chris Hemsworth in "Thor: The Dark World."

brother Loki (Tom Hiddleston) can Thor hope to stop Malekith and rescue his lady love Jane Foster (Natalie Portman), who stumbles onto the Aether and is inadvertently drawn into the Dark Elf's schemes.

Since releasing "Iron Man" in 2008, Marvel Studios has evolved into a can't-miss blockbuster movie machine, transforming characters that had long taken a back seat to the likes of Spider-Man and the X-Men into marquee attractions and launching or relaunching the big-screen careers of actors such as Hemsworth and Robert

Downey Jr. and directors including Kenneth Branagh, who took the reins on 2011's "Thor." (The summer 2012 hit "The Avengers," which brought together all of the company's A-list heroes, is the third-highest-grossing film of all time, without adjusting for inflation; this past summer's "Iron Man 3" ranks 13th on that same list.)

Still, "Thor: The Dark World" might be Marvel's most quintessentially comic book comic book movie yet. Granted, extraterrestrial warriors called Chitauri invaded New York in "Avengers" and Hugo Weaving had a red skull

for a face in "Captain America." But the CG-laden "Thor" sequel sees its heroes jumping between worlds, its villain speaking an invented Elvish language that's translated with subtitles, and the movie features one or two creatures that easily could have dropped in from a galaxy far, far away.

"It's only fun to make a movie that's risky; otherwise, they become very cookie-cutter, color-by-numbers things we don't want to do," said Marvel movie chief Kevin Feige.

In Taylor, though, Feige recruited a television veteran with a track record

of rooting elaborate fantasy in the real world. Although he's directed episodes of such critically acclaimed series as "The Sopranos," "Mad Men" and "Boardwalk Empire," it was his work on HBO's "Game of Thrones" that suggested his sensibility might be a solid match for "Thor."

"The Thor movies, they're superhero movies, but they're grounded in mythology, not just the mythology of the comics but Norse mythology," Taylor said. "I was a history major and wanted to be a history professor and have always been drawn to things that allow me to use the mystique of history. That's why I was drawn to 'Game of Thrones,' and that's why I loved doing 'Rome' and 'Deadwood.' You get to use history to represent a world that's alien but also familiar."

Taylor relocated from Brooklyn to London in June last year to begin pre-production on the \$170-million movie, which shot on location for about four months, traveling to Iceland for one week to capture the bleak vistas of Svartalfheim, the planet of the Dark Elves.

Eccleston, the accomplished British thespian known to many genre aficionados for his one-season run on the beloved cult series "Doctor Who," said he relied on Taylor a great deal when it came to fine-tuning his performance. He said he struggled to bring a level of pathos to Malekith even while buried in extensive prosthetic makeup, icy blue contact lenses and an elaborate white wig, all of which took four hours to apply.

"You can feel vulnerable in a film like this," Eccleston said. "No matter how experienced you are, you can feel silly. A director can help you through that with humor and with intelligence."

Jonathan Rhys Meyers takes a bite out of 'Dracula'

LONDON (AP)—Sexy monsters are a bit of a specialty for Jonathan Rhys Meyers.

In "The Tudors," the Irish actor made King Henry VIII an attractive despot who dispatched wives and enemies while strutting, sulking and seducing his way through 16th-century England.

Rhys Meyers is back in NBC's new series "Dracula," playing the world's most famous vampire as a sleekly alluring bloodsucker. Still, he says he hesitated when the part was offered to him, hoping for something a little more, well, normal.

"I was hoping I was going to get to play a generic cop or something, who's got his lawyer fiancee who's an uptown D.A.," Rhys Meyers said.

It's easy to see why "Dracula" producers cast the 36-year-old as a brooding vampire. Even dressed in jeans, leather jacket and Doc Marten boots, he's a striking presence with chiseled cheekbones and piercing eyes.

Modern-day vampires, he acknowledges over a salt beef sandwich near his north Lon-

don home, are an irresistible combination of the repulsive and the attractive.

"If all vampires in all films had been made to look like Klaus Kinski in 'Nosferatu,' nobody would be interested in vampires," he said. (Kinski's bald, sepulchral predator in Werner Herzog's film is the stuff of nightmares.)

"As soon as they made vampires kind of good looking—well, there you go," he said.

In "Dracula," the undead Romanian count disguises himself as Alexander Grayson, a brash young American industrialist. He turns up in 1895 in London's high society, seeking revenge on a secret vampire-hating cabal called the Order of the Dragon.

Dracula's carefully prepared plan is threatened when he meets Mina, a medical student who bears an uncanny resemblance to the wife he lost centuries earlier.

Despite his early reservations, Rhys Meyers is enthusiastic about the show, on which he is a producer. He says he was determined that his Dracula



This is an undated publicity image released by NBC shows Jonathan Rhys Meyers as Alexander Grayson in "Dracula."

would be free from bats, Gothic cobwebs and mock-Transylvanian accents.

"I wanted him to appear more like a Howard Hughes or a Citizen Kane than I wanted him to be 'Drrac-ula,'" he said, rolling the "r" with Bela Lugosi-style menace. "I said to them, 'There's no way I'm going to do 'Drrac-ula.' I'll sound like a really bad Bond villain."

Horror fans, never fear, there

is still plenty of blood. Dracula feeds lustily—though he only bites women. Men are dispatched with a sword.

"I didn't want too many scenes of him biting people's necks," Rhys Meyers said. "That gets very boring."

"No bats, no garlic. I was even a bit (hesitant) about the crucifixes," he added.

Instead of emphasizing the supernatural, the show conjures

a highly material world of oil barons, social inequality and fast-changing technology. Its vision of late-Victorian London—filmed in Budapest—has an industrial, steam-punk edge.

"We wanted to do something different, something that brought into that time a little bit of the modern struggles that we struggle with now: politics, money, oil," said Rhys Meyers. "I didn't want to go and make a period drama that was stale. Because Victorian England at that time wasn't stale. It was a very keen, very eager time."

Rhys Meyers knows something about fast times. A teenage truant who started acting after getting kicked out of school at 15, he became a pinup through early roles such as his charismatic rock star in the 1998 film "Velvet Goldmine."

He has had big roles—he was nominated for an Emmy for the 2005 miniseries "Elvis"—but has also struggled with alcohol, spent time in rehab and ended up in the headlines after airport altercations.

"The Tudors" won him millions of fans, but he's candid about the show's soapy, superfi-

cial side—not least the growing divide between the svelte actor and the famously portly monarch.

"Season one and two, I didn't mind," he said. "Season three and four got more difficult, because I couldn't put on the physical size even if I ate 150 million bowls of pasta every week."

"I was 32 when I played him at 54. So it was a little bit difficult. ... I would have happily given up my character and let an older man come in."

He says, though, that making "The Tudors" was a generally happy experience.

In his latest series, Dracula's enemies are the ruthless capitalist overlords of the British empire. Viewers could be forgiven for wondering whether Dracula, the outsider who comes to avenge ancient wrongs, is the true hero.

He's not, Rhys Meyers says. He's a monster—one with a "pinhole of humanity," but doomed all the same.

"He must lose. That's the thing I like about it," the actor said. "He's a monster in the worst possible place—in a world of humans. And we know what humans are capable of."

Ohio kidnap survivor: I was tied, strung like fish

CLEVELAND (AP)—One of three women held in a Cleveland man's home for about a decade says an orange extension cord was used to tie her neck, hands and feet and hang her "like a fish," according to pre-released clips from a taped interview that will air Tuesday and Wednesday on the "Dr. Phil" TV talk show.

"I was tied up like a fish, an ornament on the wall," Michelle Knight told the TV host in a clip released to

media. "That's the only way I can describe it."

"I was hanging like this," she said, using her finger to draw a swooping U-shape curve in the air.

In another interview clip posted on the show's YouTube channel, Knight said she was told she'd be punished after she tried to pick a lock and escape. She also said her mouth was taped at one point so she wouldn't yell.

The show has said Knight discusses



Knight

Knight was kidnapped in August 2002, when she was 20. Knight, Amanda

physical, mental and sexual abuse and torture she endured during captivity, including spending weeks in chains, with the celebrity psychologist host, Phil McGraw.

Berry and Gina DeJesus escaped from Ariel Castro's house on May 6 when Berry pushed out a door and called for help. Knight has been the most public of the kidnap victims since then, including a visit to Castro's neighborhood before his home was demolished.

Berry and DeJesus plan to collaborate with a Pulitzer Prize-winning team of Washington Post reporters for a book about their ordeal.

Castro, 53, pleaded guilty and was

sentenced to life in prison.

Knight was the only victim to appear at Castro's sentencing. She told him, "You took 11 years of my life away, but I've got my life back! I spent 11 years in hell. Now your hell is just beginning."

A month into his sentence, Castro was found dead in his cell. His hanging death was ruled a suicide, but a prison report indicated he may have died accidentally while choking himself for a sexual thrill.

Daniel Radcliffe goes back to school in 'Kill Your Darlings'

By STEVEN REA
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

PHILADELPHIA—J. Pierrepont Finch by night, Allen Ginsberg by day.

For much of the time that Daniel Radcliffe was busy in New York singing and dancing his way through the 2011 Broadway revival of "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying," he was also working with John Krokidas, a first-time filmmaker, preparing for the role of the celebrated Beat poet: teenage Ginsberg, just accepted to Columbia University, where he gets caught up with the likes of William Burroughs and Jack Kerouac. And caught up in a very real, very troubling murder. "Kill Your Darlings" is the result of Radcliffe's endeavors.

It's a long way from Harry Potter, but in a way, it isn't: Both the budding wizard Radcliffe played in the eight epic fantasy films and Ginsberg, the budding poet, left home to attend legendary institutions of learning. And both are transformed by their time there. The "Potter" franchise is just one mega, magic-powered coming-of-age story, and in "Kill Your Darlings," the Jewish kid from Paterson, N.J., heads to the big city and discovers who he is—as a writer, and as a man attracted to other men.

"You know, a lot of the parts that I would be offered at this point in my life would be in things like coming-of-age stories," says Radcliffe, who is 24 now, but can easily do younger. "And that's a theme in so many movies."

But the rest of "Kill Your Darlings," he adds, is "such a far cry. That's where



SONY PICTURES CLASSICS/MCT

Dane DeHaan, left, as Lucien Carr and Daniel Radcliffe as Allen Ginsberg in "Kill Your Darlings."

the comparisons begin and end, because it gets very dark and challenging."

In the film, "Ginsy," as he is dubbed, takes up with Lucien Carr (Dane DeHaan), a rich, reckless campus charmer. Ginsberg is smitten, attaching himself to Carr's coattails, the two of them buzzing around town in the company of the young Burroughs (Ben Foster)

and Kerouac (Jack Huston). But Ginsberg is not the only one drawn to Carr: The older and wildly obsessive David Kammerer (Michael C. Hall) can't understand why Carr won't see him any longer. He and Ginsberg become rivals for Carr's attention, and affections, until Kammerer's entreaties assume a menacing, stalker-esque aspect. Something must be done with this bothersome fellow.

And something is.

"This is a true story, which so few people know," Radcliffe says. "It was suppressed for a long time, but when you have an event that was this culturally significant, and significant in the lives of people who went on to become so famous, it seems incredible that nobody has ever told this story before."

(Literary footnote: Carr, who developed the tenets of the "New Vision" with Burroughs, Ginsberg, and Ker-

Film '12 Years a Slave' has ties to US site

ALEXANDRIA, Virginia (AP)—The painful story of a free black man lured from his home in New York in 1841 to be sold into slavery, now the basis of the new film "12 Years a Slave," has a little-known connection to a slave site that still stands near the nation's capital.

Alexandria's one-time slave pen complex, based out of a colonial-style row house, was once the epicenter of the domestic human trade in the United States after the importation of slaves was banned, according to historians. The last slave trader at the site, James H. Birch, was the same dealer who paid kidnappers \$250 for Solomon Northup of Saratoga Springs, New York, and sold him into slavery in Louisiana.

Northup's story of 12 years in slavery, published in 1853, is the basis of the new film from British director Steve McQueen. Now curators hope the film will spark new interest from visitors and historians in a rare slave site that still stands near the Capitol. It

has been open to visitors for five years as the Freedom House Museum, now a place to learn about American history.

"What's very unique about this building is it's one of the few remaining buildings that the slave trade actually took place in," said curator Julian Kiganda, who designed the exhibits. "Everyone who's come through there, they feel moved."

Northup's story is among several narratives illustrating the slave trade at the time. Exhibits in the brick basement that once served as slave quarters include artifacts found there, along with the original bars and door of this slave jail.

While there's no evidence Northup was sold through this particular site, Kiganda said it's similar in design to other slave jails at the time. Northup wrote about being held at Williams' Slave Pen, located near the National Mall. In the film, his cell is depicted within view of the Capitol.

Northup was captured at a time of rising demand for slaves in the Deep South to cultivate cotton. The slave-trading firm Franklin and Armfield began operating in Alexandria to help move a surplus of slaves in Maryland, Virginia and Delaware to selling centers in New Orleans and Natchez, Miss., either by boat or by land. Later, Birch operated the Alexandria slave pen until Union troops liberated the area in 1861, according to a history of the site.

When Northup was freed from slavery in 1853 with the help of Northern allies, he had Birch arrested for kidnapping, but Birch was set free because Northup had no right to testify against a white man.

Today, the last Birch slave-trading site stands on a busy commuter corridor in a wealthy Washington suburb. An outdoor plaque provides a brief explanation of the National Historic Landmark site, but most passers-by likely never notice.

'The Pike' wins Samuel Johnson nonfiction prize

LONDON (AP)—A biography of Italian fascist Gabriele D'Annunzio has won Britain's leading nonfiction book prize.

"The Pike," by Lucy Hughes-Hallett, was awarded the 20,000 pound (\$32,000) Samuel Johnson Prize on Monday. The book tells the story of D'Annunzio, a debauched Italian artist who became a national hero.

Martin Rees, who chaired the judging panel, praised Hughes-Hallett's "intricate crafting" of the narrative and said readers will be transfixed by her portrayal of "repellent egotist" D'Annunzio.

"Her original experimentation with form transcends the conventions of biography," Rees said.

Hughes-Hallett has written two other books: "Cleopatra: Histories, Dreams and Distortions" and "Heroes:

Saviours, Traitors and Supermen."

For the Samuel Johnson Prize, she beat out other finalists including Charles Moore's "Margaret Thatcher: The Authorized Biography;" Charlotte Higgins' portrait of ancient Britain, "Under Another Sky;" and "A Sting in the Tale" by bee conservationist Dave Goulson. "Empires of the Dead," a history of World War I cemeteries by David Crane, and William Dalrymple's 19th-century Afghan saga "Return of the King" also were on the shortlist.

Rees noted that the strength and variety of the other shortlisted works had given the judges a difficult task.

The Samuel Johnson Prize recognizes English-language books from any country in the areas of current affairs, history, politics, science, sport, travel, biography, autobiography and the arts.

Bezos wife pans book about Amazon

NEW YORK (AP)—The wife of Jeff Bezos is giving a thumbs-down to a recent book about her husband's company, Amazon.com Inc.

On Monday, MacKenzie Bezos posted a one-star review on the Amazon page for Brad Stone's "The Everything Store," which came out last month and has been received positively by critics and Amazon readers. Bezos wrote that the book was filled with inaccuracies and biased against her husband and Amazon. Spokeswoman Sarah Gelman of Seattle-based Amazon confirmed that the review was indeed written by MacKenzie Bezos.

Stone is a senior writer for Bloomberg Businessweek. As of Monday evening, his book ranked No. 109 on Amazon's best seller list. "The Everything Store" is being billed as a rare look inside a "corporate culture of relentless ambition and secrecy," a portrait Bezos is strongly disputing.



In this May 7, 2012 file photo, Amazon founder, president and CEO Jeff Bezos and wife MacKenzie Bezos arrive at the Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute gala benefit, celebrating Elsa Schiaparelli and Miuccia Prada, in New York. AP

Drew Barrymore, husband expecting 2nd child

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A spokesman for Drew Barrymore says the entertainer and her husband are expecting their second child.

Publicist Chris Miller offered no other details Monday.

Barrymore, 38, and husband Will Kopelman, who were married in June of 2012, are already parents to a daughter, 13-month-old Olive.

Barrymore recently launched her own beauty brand, Flower. Kopelman, the son of former Chanel CEO Arie Kopelman, is an art consultant.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

'Duck Dynasty' cast on tap for Macy's parade

NEW YORK (AP)—There will be a strong helping of duck at the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade—"Duck Dynasty," that is. The reality show sensations will be among the celebrities appearing at the annual event in New York City. They'll join Ariana Grande, Jimmy Fallon and the Roots, Florida Georgia Line, Cirque du Soleil and several other acts on the famous parade floats. Macy's says more than 8,000 people will participate in the event, and 3.5 million are expected to watch from the sidelines. That doesn't count the millions more who watch it on TV. This year, Snoopy and Woodstock will be among the balloons, as well as Toothless from "How to Train Your Dragon."

'Mandela' to screen for Obama at White House

NEW YORK (AP)—The Nelson Mandela biopic "Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom" will get an audience from President Barack Obama, as well as a screening at the Kennedy Center hosted by Hillary Clinton. The Weinstein Co. tells The Associated Press that Obama will screen the film Thursday at the White House. Mandela's daughters Zindzi and Zenani Mandela will join, as will the film's stars, Idris Elba and Naomie Harris. The film will also screen Nov. 20 at the Kennedy Center, with Clinton hosting the gala. Though there have been other films about the former South African president, "Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom" has long had Mandela's approval and the cooperation of his family. It premiered Sunday in Johannesburg with much of Mandela's family in attendance. "Mandela" opens in U.S. theaters Nov. 29.

Amazon original series to air mostly week-by-week

SEATTLE (AP)—Amazon is releasing its first two original series, but not all at once. The online retailing giant says the first three episodes of "Alpha House" will be available for free online and through its mobile and game-console apps on Nov. 15. After that, Amazon.com Inc. will release one episode per week exclusively to subscribers of its \$79-a-year free shipping service called Amazon Prime. It'll follow the same recipe for the release of "Betas" starting Nov. 22. Roy Price, director of Amazon Studios, said in a statement Monday that the schedule is meant to encourage customers to talk about the shows. Amazon's video service competes with Netflix, which releases an entire season at once of its original shows.

Lou Reed's will leaves estate to his wife, sister

NEW YORK (AP)—Rocker Lou Reed's life was decidedly unconventional, but he wanted his estate used for a very traditional purpose: to benefit his wife and other relatives. Reed's will was filed Monday in a New York City court. The Velvet Underground front man and "Walk on the Wild Side" singer died Oct. 27 of complications from a liver transplant. He was 71 and had no children. The will leaves his Manhattan penthouse, his home in East Hampton, New York, and the bulk of his estate to his wife, musician Laurie Anderson. The longtime couple married in 2008. Reed's sister inherits about a quarter of his estate and a \$500,000 bequest aimed at caring for their mother. His business manager and accountant are assigned to handle licensing and copyrights for his music.



In this Nov. 15, 2011 file photo, actress Drew Barrymore, right, and boyfriend Will Kopelman attend The Museum of Modern Art Film Benefit tribute to Pedro Almodovar, in New York.

Taylor Swift to receive CMA's Pinnacle Award

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP)—The Country Music Association Awards aren't until Wednesday, but Taylor Swift's already a winner.

The CMA will present Swift with its Pinnacle Award, given to an artist who has achieved worldwide success and recognition that is unique to country music.

Garth Brooks is the only other performer to win the award. It was created in 2005.



Swift

Swift is the top nominee at the awards, which will be aired live Wednesday evening on ABC from the Bridgestone Arena in Nashville, Tennessee. She's got six nominations along with Kacey Musgraves, and is going for a third win of top honor entertainer of the year.

Swift will perform on the awards show with Alison Krauss, Vince Gill, Sam Bush, Edgar Meyer and Eric Darken.

Josh Hutcherson, Queen Latifah to honor teens

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Josh Hutcherson and Queen Latifah will help honor four teenagers at the awards show founded by Nick Cannon, which is set to be broadcast live for the first time.

Nickelodeon announced Monday that the "Hunger Games" actor and rapper-actress will present trophies at the fifth annual TeenNick HALO Awards, which recognize teen volunteers for outstanding community service. The honors will be presented



Hutcherson

during a ceremony at the Hollywood Palladium on Nov. 17 and broadcast live on Nick at Nite.

Cannon says HALO, which stands for Helping and Leading Others, aims to "continue the conversations about issues that impact teens today, and empower

young people to take action and make a difference."

This year's honorees are involved with causes such as transgender rights, autism awareness, urban revitalization and girls' education.

Daughter's absentee father is present for his other kids

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: For 2 1/2 years I have taken care of my daughter without the help of her father. He pays child support only when the courts threaten to throw him in jail, but he never comes to see her. When he does come by, it's not to see or spend time with her, it's to try and get sex from me. Sometimes I give in and give it to him as an itch to scratch.

He recently got "married" and now has four other children. The last time he was over, I noticed that he has all his children's initials tattooed on his arm except our daughter's, and it bothered me.

I only want what is best for my little girl, and I have made it clear that if he isn't a part of her life now, that he needs to stay away until she's an adult. I don't want her to be hurt by a part-time or sometimes dad. I guess my question is, is it OK to be angry that he doesn't recognize her as his child but does his other four?

PO'D IN OHIO

DEAR PO'D: Oh, goodness gracious, yes. And because you don't want your child to be hurt by this man, I'm advising you to quit being his booty call. There are other ways to scratch an itch, depending upon whose itch it is. If you continue seeing him under these circumstances, you could wind up being the mother of another one of his children, God forbid.

DEAR ABBY: I am writing this hoping that anyone who is in a supervisory position at work will see it and think before pressuring employees to buy popcorn, cookies, wrapping paper, trinkets, chocolate bars, etc., for their children's schools or organizations. This is extortion. I have tried saying, "No, thank you," but I get such a bad attitude from my supervisor that I end up ordering something—usually the cheapest item—to avoid the drama.

I can't afford to drop \$20 here and there on items I wouldn't otherwise buy or eat. It's a lot of money to employees who haven't had wage or benefit increases in more than four years. I can barely keep my car filled with gas and have to unroll coins sometimes to pick up food for dinner a day or two before payday.

PLEASE tell bosses and managers not to solicit sales from employees. It's tacky!

TURNED OFF IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR TURNED OFF: I'm happy to get the word out because I agree that the sales tactic your supervisor is using is tacky. Parents who do this for their children deny the kids the experience of doing the selling and learning to cope with rejection if prospective customers don't buy.

Because you don't have \$20 to spare, you might be able to deflect the "attitude" by offering a small donation—a dollar or two—to the cause. But if you can't spare any money, then stiffen your spine and don't let yourself be made to feel guilty. Buying things you don't need is not part of your job description.

DEAR ABBY: My sister-in-law wrote the following to my husband in a birthday card: "I couldn't find a card that really fit you. None of them said 'sweet, kind, sexy, lovable, friendly, intelligent, or one of the best brothers-in-law ever,' so I'm telling you in my own words. If I could get ahold of my husband's money, I'd send you on a cruise."

Was this appropriate? I don't think so. My husband says she didn't mean anything. Help?

SHOCKED IN TENNESSEE

DEAR SHOCKED: Speaking of cruises, throw your sister-in-law a lifesaver, because I think she went overboard.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



Dear Abby

With Rodgers sidelined, Bears beat Packers, 27-20



GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP)—The Chicago Bears have a better insurance policy than Aaron Rodgers and the Green Bay Packers.

Josh McCown, playing in place of the injured Jay Cutler, threw for two touchdowns Monday night as the Bears won 27-20 and ended a six-game skid to their NFC North rivals. The loss snapped Green Bay's four-game winning streak, but the far larger concern is the health of Rodgers, who hurt his left (non-throwing) shoulder when he was sacked on the first series by Shea McClellin.

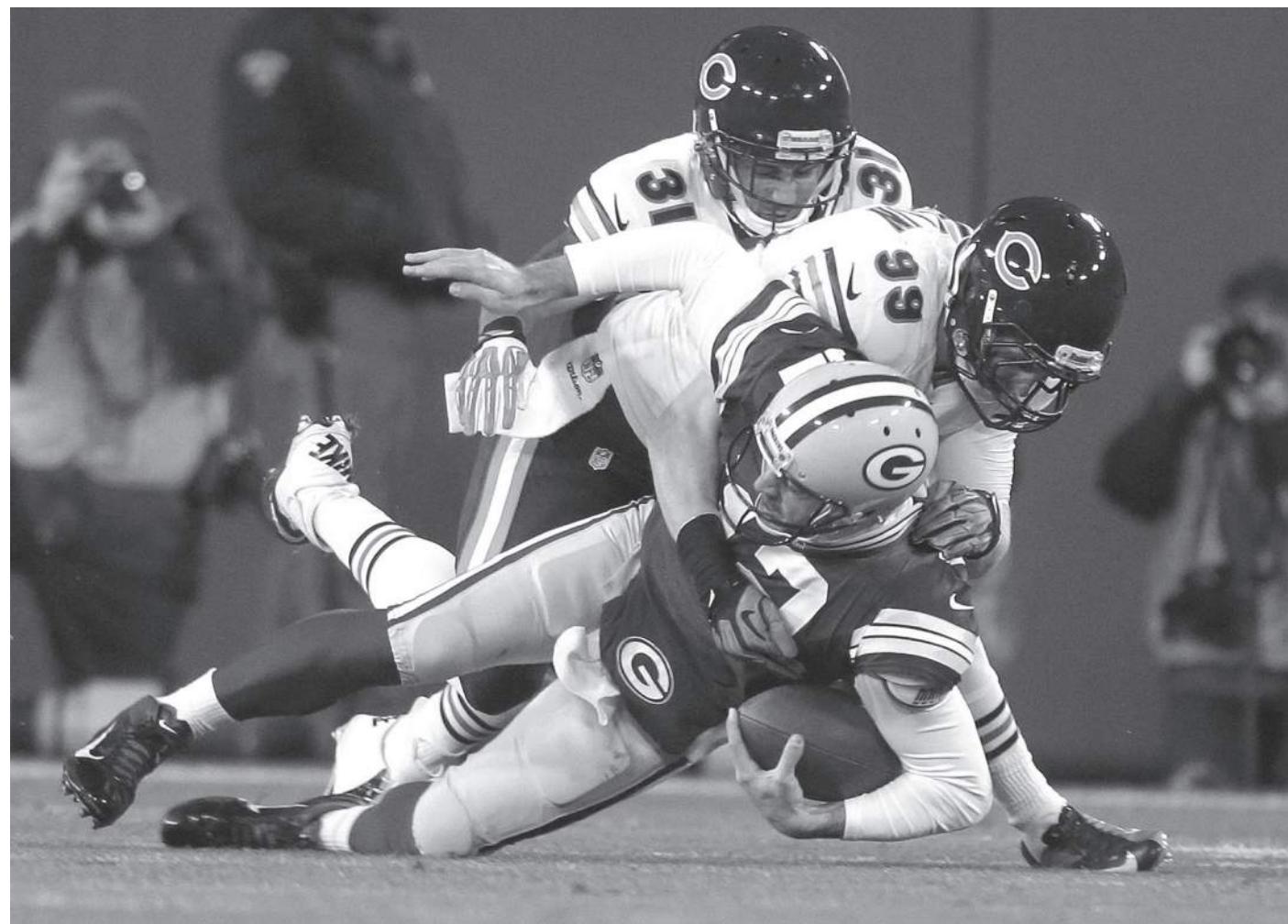
Rodgers took a few warm-up throws with backup Seneca Wallace but, after being examined by medical staff, ran into the Green Bay locker room. He wasn't seen again until midway through the third quarter, when he came back onto the field in sweats. Though he waved to fans with his right hand, and didn't appear to be wearing a brace, he kept his left hand jammed in his pocket.

"He has a shoulder injury," Packers coach Mike McCarthy said. "They want to run more tests. They don't have an exact diagnosis. We'll have more information, probably tomorrow."

Pressed for more information, McCarthy insisted there wasn't any.

"No timeline, no exact diagnosis," he said. "That's where we're at."

Alshon Jeffery had five catches for 60 yards, including a 6-yard grab for the go-ahead touchdown at the end of the



AP
Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers is sacked by Chicago Bears' Shea McClellin (99) and Isaiah Frey (31) during the first half of an NFL football game Monday, Nov. 4, 2013, in Green Bay, Wis. Rodgers left the game after the play.

third quarter. Brandon Marshall, largely shut down in two games against Green Bay last year, had seven catches for 107 yards and a score. Matt Forte ran for 125 yards and a score, and also had 54 yards receiving.

The win pulls the Bears into a three-way tie for first in the NFC North with Green Bay and Detroit, all at 5-3. The loss spoiled

another big night by Green Bay rookie Eddie Lacy, who ran for 150 yards and a touchdown.

Green Bay has been hit hard by injuries, with James Jones (knee) returning Monday night after a two-game absence and sackmaster Clay Matthews (thumb) and tight end Jermichael Finley still out. Wide receiver Randall Cobb (leg) is

also on the injured list-designated to return, and offensive lineman T.J. Lang (concussion) and linebacker Andy Mulumba (ankle) left the game.

But there are injuries and then there are INJURIES, and a hurt Aaron Rodgers is Green Bay's ultimate nightmare.

With the 2011 NFL MVP almost as durable as predecessor

Brett Favre—he hasn't missed a game due to injury since Dec. 19, 2010—the backup quarterback has been little more than an afterthought in Green Bay.

"Aaron's a huge part of our offense," McCarthy said. "This is a thing that's been built over time with Aaron as the centerpiece. I don't think it's realistic to put anyone in there and expect him to

perform (like Rodgers)."

But as the Bears know all too well, insurance policies are worth every penny when you need them.

After a series of forgettable backups under Lovie Smith—Caleb Hanie or Jonathan Quinn, anyone?—the Bears signed McCown when Cutler was hurt two years ago. He played well enough then to stick around, and his familiarity with his receivers and coach Marc Trestman's system was evident. McCown may not have been dazzling, going 22 for 41 for 272 yards. But he mixed his passes effectively to Marshall, Jeffery and Forte, and Forte ran roughshod on the Green Bay defense—scoring one touchdown.

Better yet, McCown didn't do anything to hurt the Bears, which is more than Wallace can say.

Wallace hadn't played a game since the 2011 season finale, and the rust was evident. He was intercepted on his very first series by Julius Peppers and was sacked twice, once by Peppers and once by McClellin. The Packers had a second-and-goal from the Bears 5 late in the third quarter and were forced to settle for Mason Crosby's 23-yard field goal after Wallace overthrew James Jones and Andrew Quarless. Green Bay would get no further than the Bears 39 the rest of the game.

Wallace finished 11 of 19 for 114 yards.

"Seneca, he needs to perform better and he'll definitely do that with a week of practice," McCarthy said.

Stress of coaching can add up quick in the NFL

The hours are brutal, and so are the expectations of millions who sit in judgment of what you do on Sunday afternoon.

Being a coach in the NFL isn't necessarily an automatic ticket to the emergency room. But the hospitalization of two coaches on one midseason weekend—one after collapsing on primetime television—is a scary reminder that the unrelenting pressure of trying to win football games week after week can be a dangerous thing.

"Football sure is stressful and coaching is a stressful occupation—just like a lot of people's jobs are stressful," said Dan Reeves, who underwent heart surgery while coaching the Atlanta Falcons in 1998. "But it's such a time-consuming job that you don't really take care of yourself the way you should, and it's easy to have those things happen."

Like Denver's John Fox, Reeves knew he had heart issues during the season. Like Fox, he wanted to put them off as his team made a run to the playoffs.

And like Fox he ended up in the hospital while his team played without him.

"Good thing I finally said something to a doctor," Reeves said, "or I could have had a heart attack."

Fox underwent aortic valve replacement surgery Monday, two days after feeling dizzy while playing golf near his offseason home in North Carolina. Predictably, the team issued a statement quoting the coach as saying he was disappointed to have to leave the team and looked forward to returning to the sidelines as soon as possible.

Not so predictable is the future of Gary Kubiak, who collapsed while walking off the field at halftime Sunday night in a game his team would go on to lose in his absence. Though the Texans issued a statement saying Kubiak was alert and in good spirits, he will remain in a Houston hospital at least through Tuesday while doctors run tests to find out what caused him to go down.

They're coaches of two teams going in different directions, with one thing in common: Both are suddenly powerless to do anything about it.

"It'll be tough on them, sitting there and thinking they can't do what they are supposed to do, that your job is to help your team," former

coach Tony Dungy said. "You really feel that: 'I can't help my team.'"

The timing of the hospitalizations just a day apart was coincidental, though still a bit unsettling to the rest of the coaching fraternity. Kubiak's collapse came after a rare good half of football this season for the Texans, while Fox was enjoying a bye week in a season where the Broncos have done nothing to diminish expectations that they will be in the Super Bowl.

Both make millions coaching in the NFL, but the job comes at a price and with the understanding that winning is the only thing.

"There is a lot of pressure on head coaches," Broncos executive John Elway said. "I think especially with the size of this game and the growth of this game, the expectation levels have continued to grow. So that's a tough, tough spot."

Elway said he called Indianapolis general manager Ryan Grigson on Sunday to see how the Colts managed last year, when coach Chuck Pagano was diagnosed with leukemia and hospitalized. Pagano had been experiencing extreme fatigue and bruising but, like Fox, waited until the team's bye week to be checked out by a doctor.

Pagano would return for the last regular-season game, and the Broncos are already preparing for the eventual return of Fox.

"This is Coach Fox's team," interim coach Jack Del Rio said. "I'm merely the person that's able to keep it running right now while he's healing."

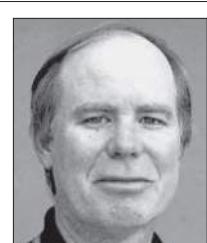
Coaches around the league talked Monday about how they try to deal with the stress of a job that takes place under an unrelenting spotlight. They praised team doctors for making sure they have regular physicals, and said they try to understand the warning signs that come with the job.

Then they went back to their offices to break down film and get ready for another Sunday where 70,000 people in the stadium and millions more at home are second guessing their every move.

"There are times when stress does things to you mentally and physically that nothing else does," said Arizona coach Bruce Arians, who took over for Pagano when he was sick. "I know when I was at Temple my last year, I was having three migraines a week. The day I got fired I didn't have another migraine."

Stress can affect people in different ways, but researchers say

By TIM DAHLBERG
AP Sports Writer



there is an expanding body of evidence linking it to increased risk for heart disease, strokes and certain types of cancer. George Slavich, director of the Laboratory for Stress Assessment and Research at UCLA, said it increases inflammation in the body which leads to health problems.

"Stress-related increases in inflammation are a secret killer in the United States," Slavich said. "What we have here is a good example of how stress can affect people in a high stakes, high pressure environment."

It doesn't get any more high stakes or high pressure than the NFL, but coaches everywhere are used to feeling the urgent need to produce. That's certainly true in the college ranks, where the pay at big schools is comparable to the NFL and alumni are every bit as demanding as NFL fans are when it comes to their school's football team.

Urban Meyer went to the emergency room complaining of chest pains the day after the SEC championship game when he was at Florida in 2009, and Wisconsin's Gary Andersen collapsed in the bathroom of his home the next year after a loss while at Utah State. Minnesota's Jerry Kill, meanwhile, had to take a leave of absence this year after suffering a series of epileptic seizures.

Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops knows well the perils of his occupation. His father died in 1988 while coaching a high school game.

"I lost my father in the sidelines at 54 years old, so if anybody knows the hazards of it, it's myself, my family, and the reason why I yearly, twice a year, am very aware of being checked thoroughly with doctors," Stoops said. "Not that that can prevent it, but you want to use the science, and the medicine and doctors as much as you can."

Iguodala, Warriors easily hand 76ers 1st loss



PHILADELPHIA
(AP)—Evan Turner just had to send a good-natured text to Andre Iguodala after Philadelphia ran its record to 3-0.

"You're next."

Hardly.

Iguodala tormented his former team with a game better than any he ever played in eight seasons with the 76ers. He made a career-high seven 3-pointers, scored 32 points, had one behind-the-back assist for the highlight reel, and the Golden State Warriors handed Philadelphia its first loss of the season, 110-90 on Monday night.

"I got a good look or two, and confidence started flowing," Iguodala said.

Stephen Curry had 18 points, 12 assists and 10 rebounds for his second career triple-double.

The overachieving 76ers (3-1) were one of the early surprises of the season. Iguodala, a former Sixers All-Star, brought them back to reality.

Iguodala was sensational, setting the pace early with six 3s and 27 points in the first half. He also made the play of the young season, a behind-the-back, mid-air assist to David Lee. Iguodala whipped it from the corner at about the 3-point line and hit Lee in stride down the lane.

"When I was here, that was just natural to me to make plays like that," Iguodala said.

Curry had a perfect view from the other side of the court of Iguodala's catch-and-release pass.

"I'm sure we'll be seeing a lot of that on TV the next couple of days," he said.

Sixers rookie point guard Michael Carter-Williams, the Eastern Conference player of the week, missed 13 of 17 shots and scored 18 points.

The preseason Las Vegas pick as the worst team in the NBA, the Sixers beat Miami and Chicago to put them on the brink of their first 4-0 start since 2000-01.

Staying undefeated was nev-



Golden State Warriors' Andre Iguodala celebrates after making a three-point basket during the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Philadelphia 76ers on Monday, Nov. 4, 2013, in Philadelphia.

er much of an option after the opening minutes.

Iguodala hit three 3s in the first quarter to torment his former team and help Golden State build a 16-point lead. Iguodala was traded in 2012 to Denver as part of a four-team trade that saw the Sixers land Los Angeles Lakers center Andrew Bynum. Bynum never played a second for the Sixers and signed with Cleveland. Iguodala left the Nuggets to sign with the Warriors.

Iguodala had scored only 26 points in the first three games.

"I wasn't even thinking about scoring," Iguodala said. "It just kind of happened liked that."

Much like his Philly days,

Iguodala was on the high-flying finishing end of a few alley-oops that sparked the offense. He soared above the rim to snare about a 70-foot pass from Curry for one slam. Booed during pregame introductions, Sixers fans were left impressed with his dunks.

"You could see how much fun we were having in the first half when he was going off," Curry said.

Lee scored 14 of his 18 points in the first half to help Golden State lead 66-42.

The Sixers had rallied in the second half in each of their first three games, and never led to open the fourth.

They trailed 98-65 in this one.

"It's very tough to keep doing it each and every night," forward Thaddeus Young said. "Tonight, it actually caught up with us."

Carter-Williams joined Shaquille O'Neal as the only NBA players to win a player of the week award to open a career. The No. 11 pick in the draft averaged 20.7 points and 9.0 assists in three games. He also outplayed Washington's John Wall and Chicago's Derrick Rose in the eye-opening efforts.

Curry, who had five steals, simply toyed with the rookie. He shot 7 of 16 and grabbed seven defensive rebounds. Af-

ter his 10th assist late in the third, he was pulled. Golden State coach Mark Jackson rested his starters in the fourth with the game out of hand, a lead as large as 39 points thanks to 15 of 38 3s.

Jackson left Curry in until the final seconds of the third to grab that needed 10th rebound.

"He's done everything right for me, put me in position to be a successful coach," Jackson said. "It's a way of saying thank you. I wouldn't have kept him in much longer, but he deserved it."

Turner scored 18 points and Tony Wroten had 14 for the Sixers.

Sixers coach Brett Brown left the rookie known as MCW in the game for the fourth quarter. He missed nine of 11 shots and scored only 10 points through the first three quarters before beefing his point total in garbage time.

"We were sloppy, we were careless," Brown said. "Some of that was a result of their good defense."

Clippers 137, Rockets 118

In Los Angeles, J.J. Redick scored 19 of his 26 points in the first half to lead seven players in double figures, and Los Angeles handed Houston its first loss of the season in Dwight Howard's return to Staples Center.

Chris Paul added 23 points and 17 assists, Jamal Crawford had 21 points, and Blake Griffin scored 18 for the Clippers, who led the entire game and tied a franchise record with 78 points in the first half.

Howard finished with 13 points and nine rebounds after getting roundly booted in his first game in Los Angeles since leaving the Lakers and signing with Houston in the NBA's biggest free agent move last summer.

Jared Dudley added 15 points and DeAndre Jordan had 11 points and nine rebounds for the Clippers, who have won five in

a row against Houston at home and three straight overall.

Cavaliers 93, Timberwolves 92

In Cleveland, C.J. Miles scored 19 points, Kyrie Irving added 15 and Cleveland held off a late rally to hand Minnesota its first loss of the season.

The Timberwolves nearly erased a 23-point deficit midway through the third quarter to stay unbeaten, but Kevin Love, the NBA's leading scorer, missed a 3-pointer with 1.9 seconds remaining and the ball was tipped away as time ran out.

Kevin Martin led the Timberwolves with 23 points. Love added 17 points and 13 rebounds for Minnesota, which won its first three games and was off to its best start since going 6-0 in 2001-02.

Cavaliers rookie forward Anthony Bennett, taken with the No. 1 pick in the draft, missed all three of his shots and is 0 for 15 from the field this season. His only points have come on two free throws in the season opener.

Grizzlies 95, Celtics 88

In Memphis, Tenn., Jerryd Bayless keyed a fourth-quarter rally, scoring all of his 15 points in the period to lead Memphis over Boston.

Bayless was 6 of 7 in the quarter to help Memphis erase a six-point Boston lead with just under 9 minutes to play.

Zach Randolph and Mike Conley also had 15 for Memphis, Conley handing out eight assists. Marc Gasol finished with 14 points on 6-of-10 shooting from the field and grabbed eight rebounds.

Jeff Green led the Celtics with 22 points, while Jared Sullinger scored 16, going 2 of 3 from outside the arc. Avery Bradley scored 14 and Jordan Crawford finished with 12.

The Celtics fell to 0-4 under rookie coach Brad Stevens.

whether a failed stimulant test was introduced by MLB as evidence in the grievance.

Rodriguez said when he arrived at spring training in 2008 that "last year, I got tested 9 to 10 times. ... We have a very, very strict policy, and I think the game is making tremendous strides."

That would be an unusually high number of random checks but would be in line with a player subjected to additional tests resulting from an amphetamine violation. Later in the day, A-Rod said his comments were an "exaggeration to make a point."

Sports Illustrated reported in 2009 that Rodriguez tested positive for steroids during MLB's anonymous survey in 2003, and A-Rod said two days later he used banned substances while playing with the Texas Rangers from 2001-03.

Report: A-Rod failed MLB stimulant test in 2006



**N E W
Y O R K**
(A P) —

Alex Rodriguez tested positive for a banned stimulant in 2006, The New York Times reported Monday, an accusation denied by a representative of the legal team for the New York Yankees' third baseman.

The newspaper cited two unidentified people involved with baseball's drug-testing program.

Baseball's joint drug agreement specifies the discipline for a first positive test for a banned stimulant is six additional unannounced drug tests over the year following the violation. A second stimulant violation would result in a 25-game suspension.

Rodriguez's legal team accused MLB of leaking the alle-

gation of a positive test, using a statement and making a filing to arbitrator Fredric Horowitz.

Lanny Davis, a former Clinton administration official working for Rodriguez's legal team, denied the player tested positive, the Times said. James McCarroll, a lawyer for the three-time AL MVP, did not address whether Rodriguez had a positive test, only that he was not banned.

"Alex Rodriguez was never suspended for use of stimulants or any violation of the MLB drug program," McCarroll said in a statement. "The fact that MLB has resorted to leaking federally protected medical information about a player speaks volumes of the weakness of their case against Alex - and their desperation to secure a win

in the arbitration, at all costs."

MLB chief operating officer Rob Manfred declined comment.

"We were not the source for this story," MLB said in a statement. "We honor our joint drug program and never publicly disclose player test results until it's publicly announced."

In a statement Monday night, Davis called for a government probe into MLB's methods. MLB has admitted paying for documents and Rodriguez's lawyers have claimed baseball's representatives have intimidated witnesses.

"U.S. authorities should initiate an investigation as to whether any federal crimes have been committed by MLB investigators as well as those in the Commissioner's office who

may have been complicit in this misconduct," Davis said.

Rodriguez was suspended for 211 games by Major League Baseball on Aug. 5 under baseball's drug agreement for his alleged "use and possession of numerous forms of prohibited performance-enhancing substances, including testosterone and human growth hormone, over the course of multiple years." He also was penalized under the labor contract for "a course of conduct intended to obstruct and frustrate the office of the commissioner's investigation."

The three-time AL MVP was allowed to keep playing until the arbitrator decides a grievance filed by the players' association to overturn the penalty. Horowitz has presided over eight days

of hearings, which are scheduled to resume Nov. 18.

"Alex has abided by the confidentiality rules of the arbitration process. MLB has not," McCarroll said. "In response to MLB's incessant leaks, Alex recently has even gone so far as to offer that the proceeding be opened to the media, so as to even the playing field - an offer which MLB promptly rejected, as they prefer to continue their one-sided flow of leaks, rather than having the weakness of their case exposed publicly by full and fair coverage. Every new step MLB takes wrecks of desperation, in its obsessive effort to bring Alex down."

MLB and the union agreed in 2005 to ban many stimulants. The paper said it wasn't clear

Jury convicts man in killing of Redskins' Taylor

MIAMI (AP)—A jury has convicted a man of second-degree murder in the killing of Washington Redskins star Sean Taylor, who was shot outside his bedroom after witnesses said he confronted a group of young men who broke into his home.

The jury deliberated about 16 hours over four days before returning the verdict Monday in the trial of 23-year-old Eric Rivera Jr., who admitted in a videotaped confession to police days after Taylor's death that he fired the fatal shot after kicking in the bedroom door. But at the trial, he said on the witness stand that his confession was given only under police pressure and amid purported threats to his family.

Rivera sat quietly at the defense table with his lawyers after the verdict was announced, showing no reaction or emotion. The courtroom was packed with Taylor and Rivera family members—and about two dozen security personnel—but there were no outbursts.

Rivera was also convicted of armed burglary. Although Rivera did not get the maximum first-degree murder conviction, he still faces a potential life prison sentence. Miami-Dade Circuit Judge Dennis Murphy did not immediately set a sentencing date but will hold a related hearing Dec. 10.

Neither prosecutors, Taylor's family nor the family of the football player's girlfriend would comment afterward. Rivera's parents, sisters, lawyers and friends also left without comment, as did the 12 jurors.

In the confession, Rivera said the group of five young men, all from the Fort Myers area, drove to Taylor's house planning to steal large amounts of cash he kept inside. They thought Taylor, 24, would be out of town at a game against Tampa Bay, but didn't realize until it was too late that he was home with a knee injury. Taylor's then-girlfriend, Jackie Garcia Haley, and their 18-month-old daughter, were also home at the time but were not hurt.

Four other men were also charged in the case and three will be tried later. Venjah Hunte, 25, pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and burglary charges in a deal that calls for a 29-year prison sentence.

Testifying in his own defense, Rivera claimed it was Hunte who brought the 9mm handgun and who shot Taylor. Rivera insisted he was not told about the burglary plot until the group was driving toward Miami, and that he stayed in the car outside Taylor's house the whole time.

The gun was never found. Police say it was stuffed in a sock and thrown into the Everglades.

Legal experts said Monday's verdict appeared to be a compromise, with at least some jurors doubting the confession and questioning whether Rivera, who was 17 at the time, truly pulled the trigger—but not that he played a role in the burglary plot.



Eric Rivera Jr. stands in court Thursday, Oct. 31, 2013, in Miami. The jury is deliberating the fate of Rivera who is charged in the 2007 slaying of former Washington Redskins star Sean Taylor.

"They believed that he was part of the burglary and was present when it occurred," said David S. Weinstein, a former federal prosecutor now in private practice. "There was no eyewitness to put the gun in Rivera's hand and that is what at least one juror needed to convict him of first-degree murder."

Taylor, a Pro Bowl safety who had starred at the University of Miami, was shot in the upper thigh, damaging his femoral artery and causing massive blood loss. Witnesses say Taylor was shot when he confronted the group with a machete outside his bedroom. A medical examiner said he was essentially dead on arrival at a hospital on Nov.

26, 2007, although doctors did manage to restart his heart for a while.

Aside from Rivera's confession, police found shoe prints outside Taylor's home that matched sneakers some in the group were wearing that night. Witnesses testified Rivera was seen driving a rented black Toyota Highlander believed used in the crime, and another witness said the group of five had burglary tools when they came to her house after Taylor was shot.

Taylor, a first-round Redskins draft pick in 2004, signed an \$18 million contract with the team and was becoming one of the NFL's top defensive players

when he was slain. Several witnesses, including Garcia Haley, testified that he liked to keep large amounts of cash around his Miami house.

One of the men charged in the slaying, 25-year-old Jason Mitchell, attended a birthday party a few weeks earlier at the house for Taylor's half-sister, Sasha Johnson—who lived in Fort Myers and knew Rivera. She testified that Taylor gave her a purse containing \$10,000 in cash at the party, which was witnessed by all the guests.

That event put the wheels in motion for the burglary plot, witnesses said. Rivera himself testified that some in the group thought they would get between \$100,000 and \$200,000 to split up.

SIS

From Page 28

Blue finished in the Top 2 in the double-round robin regular season with the Terns ruling the nine-team field with its 7-1 record. The Geckos earned a 6-2 card, splitting their two games against Whispering Palms and absorbing their other loss at the hands of MBA.

With SIS Blue ranked second after the regular season, it

was paired against Mt. Carmel School in the first round of the playoffs and swept the Knights last Monday, 27-25, 25-14, to arrange a semis tiff against GCA.

The Eagles advanced to the semis after prevailing against SIS White, while Whispering Palms took the third Final Four berth after downing Seventh Day Adventist. The last semis seat went to MBA, which eliminated SCS in last Monday's playoff game.

SHIRLEY'S

From Page 28

last Friday at the Oleai Sports Complex, it was MP United FC's turn to clobber Shirley's FC.

MP United had a consistent offense in the first and second halves to ease past Shirley's FC and gain its fourth win of the season. Amir Abes drilled back-to-back goals (4th minute and 19th minute) to heat up MP United's engine, while Wesley Poiroux converted the last goal in the first half (27th minute).

Sun Joon Tenorio made it a 4-0 count for MP United with his goal in the 51st minute, while David Kim and Bada Lee registered the last two goals, scoring in the 73rd and 78th, respectively.

In the other game in the boys U15, Matansa FC and Tan Holdings FC engaged in a scoreless draw.

BOYS U18 MP United 10, Paire 0

MP United was also unstoppable in the boys U18 game last Saturday, as it wallop Paire.

Jehn Joyner reported back for duty after seeing action in the Pilipinas Cup 2013 and announced his return to the league by scoring two goals. Kyke Chung also contributed two goals for MP United, which got the six other goals from Tanapon Unsua, Sung Bae Park, Enrico Del Rosario, Namki Kim, Greg Sablan, and Greg Lee.

Unsa, who was also part of the MP United squad that finished third place in the Pilipinas Cup, started things out for his team, scoring in the seventh minute, while Del Rosario and Park made the two other goals in the first half. The undefeated MP United (4-0) went on to toy with the defense of Paire, drilling one goal after another in the second half.

LAGUNA

From Page 28

Laguna nipped Armatech/MDX in the second match, 59-57. Blue Haus completed the first round with a perfect 5-0 record, while Laguna earned a 4-1 card. Armatech fell to a 2-3 slate for fourth place behind DeGree (3-2), while Shakir Realty/MAFEA (1-4) and PIC (0-5) rounded out the field.

Laguna kept up with Blue Haus in the team standings and notched its fourth win in a row after showing poise in the home-stretch of the back-and-forth game. Melvin Villarin canned back-to-back baskets and made a crucial steal, while Jun Alipio drilled two free throws to lift Laguna to the 2-point win.

Villarin's first basket came with less than a minute left in the fourth and gave Laguna a 55-54 lead. MDX missed on the other end and Laguna went for a fastbreak, but the former's George Poquiz broke up the play and threw the ball toward their frontcourt. However, the ball landed on the wrong hands with Villarin picking it up and getting a big break, as he wasn't called for a back violation when he dribbled from their court toward MDX's and instead drew a foul on Bernard Montano.

MDX had fouls to give so Laguna was forced to reset play from the sideline with Amor Zapata inbounding the ball and

Also charged and awaiting trial are Mitchell, Charles Ward-

low, 24, and 22-year-old Timothy Brown.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	3	.750	—
Toronto	2	.667	1/2
New York	1	.333	1/2
Brooklyn	1	.333	1/2
Boston	0	.000	3

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

Miami	2	.500	—
Orlando	2	.500	—
Atlanta	1	.333	1/2
Charlotte	1	.333	1/2
Washington	0	.000	1 1/2

CENTRAL DIVISION

Indiana	3	0	1.000	—
Detroit	2	1	.667	1
Cleveland	2	2	.500	1 1/2
Chicago	1	2	.333	2
Milwaukee	1	2	.333	2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

Houston	3	1	.750	—
San Antonio	2	1	.667	1/2
Dallas	2	1	.667	1/2
Memphis	2	2	.500	1
New Orleans	1	2	.333	1 1/2

NORTHWEST DIVISION

Minnesota	3	1	.750	—
Portland	2	1	.667	1/2
Oklahoma City	2	1	.667	1/2
Denver	0	2	.000	2
Utah	0	3	.000	2 1/2

PACIFIC DIVISION

L.A. Clippers	3	1	.750	—
Golden State	3	1	.750	—
Phoenix	2	1	.667	1/2
L.A. Lakers	2	2	.500	1
Sacramento	1	2	.333	1 1/2

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	7	2	.778	234	175
N.Y. Jets	5	4	.556	169	231
Miami	4	4	.500	174	187
Buffalo	3	6	.333	189	236

SOUTH

Indianapolis	6	2	0	.750	214	155
Tennessee	4	4	0	.500	173	167
Houston	2	6	0	.250	146	221
Jacksonville	0	8	0	.000	86	264

NORTH

Cincinnati	6	3	0	.667</td

Week 2 Tan Holdings Open 2013

PHOTOS By
ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Anna Alvarez makes a return during her and Loyda Ito's women's doubles B game against Windy Fernandez and Toshiko Obata in the Tan Holdings Open 2013 late last month at the TSL Sports Complex.



Young Sang You leans back for a return during his and father Han's men's doubles C title game against Eydie Uy and Ronnie Tan.



Lance Bartolome reaches in for the shuttlecock, while teammate Patrick Fernandez looks on.



Andrea Galvez goes for a backhand return, while teammate Elna Curate looks on.



Alma Ortega steps in for a shot during her and Glenn Bluutjens' mixed doubles A game against Elna Curate and Andrea Galvez.



Roger Vales serves.



Windy Fernandez stretches for a return, while Chris Hilario stands by at the backcourt.



Ronnie Tan eyes the shuttlecock, while Eydie Uy waits for the next play.



Rowena Sison makes a backhand return, while teammate Nicole Mala-sarte gets ready for the next play.



Shirley Kim goes for a return from the backcourt.



Saipan Tribune Sports



28 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

SIS vs Whispering Palms in v'ball finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Whispering Palms and Saipan International School Blue arranged a title duel in the junior varsity division of the 2013-2014 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Volleyball League after recording contrasting wins yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Whispering Palms played in the first semis game and swept Marianas Baptist Academy, 25-18, 25-7, to earn its third straight finals appearance. The Terns made it to the finals of the 2011-2012 season, but lost to Grace Christian Academy in the finals before reclaiming the crown last season after beating Saipan Community School in the title match. Whispering Palms will be

gunning for its JV championship when it plays SIS Blue today at 3:30pm.

The Geckos took the second finals ticket after slipping past Grace Christian Academy in the other Final Four pairing. SIS Blue won the opening set, 25-10, but failed to finish the game early after the Eagles stole the second set, 25-22. Then in the deciding third set, the



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Saipan International School's Luther Lizama returns to Grace Christian Academy during their semis game in the JV varsity division of the COPSSA volleyball league yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Geckos regrouped quickly and built an 11-5 lead en route to a 15-9 triumph capped by Luther Lizama's booming spike.

The Geckos are back in the finals after missing the title games in the last two seasons. SIS marched into the finals in 2010, but lost to SCS in two sets, 17-25, 16-25.

"It's nice to play in the championship game, again. We have to avoid committing too many mistakes in our service game. We tend to get nervous while serving, so if we keep our composure while we serve we will do well," SIS Blue coach Mili Saiki said.

"It will be an interesting finals, as SIS Blue and Whispering Palms are pretty even. It's going to be a good match," Saiki added.

Whispering Palms and SIS
See SIS on Page 26

Shirley's FC keeps unbeaten record

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Shirley's FC maintained its perfect mark in the girls U15 division of the 2013 NMIFA Youth Fall League after routing MP United FC, 6-1, last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

The win was the fourth in as many games for Shirley's FC and second against MP United FC. Diana Maniacop and De Jana Muna scored two goals apiece in the easy victory, while Samantha Manacop and Kartina Costales chipped in one each.

Manacop was the first one to break into the scoreboard for Shirley's FC, as she nailed a goal in the 16th minute. MP United then briefly tied the match off Maureen Faye Doculian's goal nine minutes later before Shirley's FC took the lead anew, 2-1, with Manacop getting her first goal at the 32nd minute.

It was all Shirley's FC from thereon, as the division leader made it to the board early in the second half with Costales earning her first goal right into the second minute of the final half and Maniacop posting her second two minutes late. Muna then closed out the game with back-to-back goals in the 56th and 58th minute.

Matansa FC 1, Tan Holdings FC 1

In the first game in the girls U15 division, Tan Holdings forced a draw against Matansa



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MP United, left, and Shirley's FC players try to stop the ball during the second half of their game in the girls U15 division of the NMIFA youth league last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

after scoring the equalizer in the second half.

Matansa took the lead in the first 45 minutes of play after Maile Aldrich found the back of the net in the 34th minute. Matansa hung on to the shaky

advantage in the opening 15 minutes of the second half before Mary Kay Alferos dropped the game-tying goal in the 61st minute. Both teams remained aggressive on offense in the remaining

minutes in the second half, but failed to score anew to settle for the draw.

BOYS U15 MP United 6, Shirley's FC 0

In the second boys U15 match

See SHIRLEY'S on Page 26

Laguna, Blue Haus triumph



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Laguna/Erika's Catering's Melvin Villarin goes up for a finger roll against MDX/Armatech's Martin Moreno during the fourth quarter of their game in the UFO Masters caging last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Blue Haus and Laguna/Erika's Catering finished in the Top 2 in the first round of the 2013 UFO-Budweiser Masters Division Basketball League following their separate wins last Saturday

at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium of the TSL Sports Complex.

Blue Haus whipped Pacific Islands Club in the first game, 106-84, while

See LAGUNA on Page 26

